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EMMA'S CANCER BATTLE SPURS FAMILY APPEAL

By Danielle Thompson

THE family of a schoolteacher battling a brain tumour have launched an appeal to raise awareness and funds on behalf of a brain cancer charity's early diagnosis campaign.

Former Tarleton Primary School pupil Emma Roberts was diagnosed with the grade three malignant tumour in July last year, just nine months after marrying husband Ashley.

The 28–year–old, who grew up in West Lancashire, had been feeling ill with symptoms including vomiting, terrible headaches and extreme fatigue.

Initially family and friends thought the newly–wed, who now lives in the West Midlands, might be pregnant. Then a virus or migraines were suspected.

But when she collapsed at a family celebration for her grandfather's 81st birthday subsequent scans revealed a fast–growing malignant tumour the size of a tennis ball.

Since then history teacher Emma has undergone two operations, as well as six weeks of radiotherapy and ongoing chemotherapy.

Now her dad, Michael Johnson and stepmum, Tracy, from Coe Lane, Tarleton, are hoping to raise funds for the HeadSmart campaign run by the Brain Tumour Charity.

Currently less than 2% of all cancer research funds is allocated to brain tumours and the couple haved timed their appeal to coincide with National Brain Tumour Awareness Month which is running throughout March.

They have come up with a fundraising idea for users of social media platform Facebook to post pictures of themselves with their pants on their head then nominate others to do the same and to donate to HeadSmart, which aims to increase awareness of the symptoms of brain tumours among the public and healthcare professionals.

Michael and Tracy are calling their fundraiser HeadSmart–y Pants and are hoping that it will go 'viral' in a similar fashion to the ice–bucket challenge which took off last year on social media.

• *Continued inside*

Emma and her dad, Michael, on her wedding day Code NA

Green light for pub conversion

PLANS to convert the former Plough pub on Church Street in Ormskirk into a restaurant and cafe, plus student accommodation, have been given the go–ahead.

The pub, which dates back more than 100 years, has been closed since March 2014.

Applicants Oak Park Estates submitted plans to West Lancs Borough Council to convert the building into a restaurant and cafe/drinking establishment on the ground floor, with the upper floors to be converted into a 10–bedroomed student housing development.

There are also plans for a single–storey extension to the rear.

The plans were approved at a meeting of West Lancs Council's planning committee on Thursday, February 26.

Public meeting to discuss ground plans

A MEETING to discuss plans for the potential development of Burscough FC's Victoria Park ground is beng held tomorrow (Thursday, March 5) at the Burscough Stanley Club in Liverpool Road North.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will start at 7pm and will feature a presentation by the football club's owner, Martin Gilchrist, outlining his plans to build a new ground for the club, which would require the present sports centre and ground being demolished.

After the presentation, Mr Gilchrist will stay behind to take questions and to discuss the plans further.

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‘Pacers have had their day – they are not suitable for modern commuting.’ So says Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin

In that case, let’s get rid of these clapped out trains NOW! not in 2020

JUST three weeks after the Champion launched a campaign to rid our railways of clapped out Pacers, the Department of Transport has confirmed it wants to scrap the 30–year–old trains.

But it seems that companies bidding for the government’s new rail franchises in the North will only be required to replace them by 2020!

That’s not good enough for fed–up passengers who face travelling on dreaded Pacers both on the Southport to Manchester line and the Ormskirk to Preston line for years to come.

Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin, said last week that new northern rail franchises ‘must scrap Pacers trains’ and added ‘Pacers have had their day’ they are ‘not suitable for modern commuting.’

In that case Mr McLoughlin why not get rid of them NOW!

The Northern franchise operates local, commuter and rural services and long–distance services linking major cities and towns including Southport and Ormskirk

Companies shortlisted to run the new franchises were announced in August. Competing for Northern are Arriva, Govia and Abellio.

Firm Vivarail is in talks with some of the operators competing for the franchises, offering them the use of converted London Underground trains.

In responding to the ‘announcement’ Mick Cash, general secretary of the RMT transport union, said: “Any new trains are light years away with passengers forced to endure the misery of the clapped–out Pacers, and the ancient London Underground rolling stock that’s heading North, way off into the future.”

Meanwhile, the Champion’s call to get rid of Pacer trains once and for all from our railway lines has been welcomed by Southport Rail Transport Forum (SRTF).

The withdrawal of the entire Class 142 Pacer fleet is one of the four key objectives which SRTF are fighting for alongside John Pugh MP and the Ormskirk, Preston and Southport Traveller’s Association (OPSTA).

Forum members contacted the Champion to add their support to our campaign.

They say the Pacer issue in particular is symptomatic of the severe deprivation in rail investment on the northern lines currently operated by Northern Rail and is part of SRTF’s broader campaign to include the Southport – Manchester line in the Department of Transport’s 21st century railway modernisation plan which under current proposals Southport and communities west of Wigan will be net losers.

SRTF’s four point plan is aimed at regenerating Southport and North Sefton’s economy by improving and expanding connectivity to the prosperous city regions, opening up markets and providing a safe, fast, comfortable passenger experience for visitors and daily commuters travelling to and from Southport on the Manchester line.

The four point plan is:–

•Electrification programme – Wigan to Southport

•Withdrawal of the Class 142 Pacer fleet Southport – Manchester

•Retention and improvement of Southport’s direct rail link to the Manchester Southern Gateway – Piccadilly and the International Airport

•Reconnection of the direct rail line from Southport to Preston via the Burscough Curves.

Christine McGregor, on behalf of Southport Rail Transport Forum told the Champion: “The SRTF is actively engaged with all the major rail stakeholders: Merseytravel, the three Northern Rail franchise bidders – Abellio, Arriva and Govia, (each of whom recently came to Southport) in an on–going dialogue to make a compelling case for a rail programme that will deliver the four key objectives.”

West Lancs MP’s ‘cautious’ welcome for Pacer pledge

WEST Lancs MP Rosie Cooper gave a ‘cautious’ welcome to the news that the hugely unpopular Pacer trains would be fully eliminated in the new Northern franchise.

She said: “The u–turn by the Transport Secretary is welcomed if new trains are delivered to replace the unsafe and outdated Pacer trains we see rolling through West Lancashire.

“However, I’m cautious about this latest announcement because each week the commitment to replace Pacer trains seems to change and we have different definitions of new trains.

“I think commuters who are faced with rising fares will be cautious too until they see these new trains actually arriving at their station.”

Council chiefs say budget is 'good news' for residents

Council tax set to rise by 1.74% and rents up by 2.2%

By **Henry James**

WEST Lancashire residents are facing a 1.74% increase in their council tax bills following the setting of the borough council's new budget for the 2015/16 financial year – which council chiefs have hailed as "good news for people living and working in the area."

Councillors said they had frozen the authority's element of the council tax bill for the sixth year running, while charges on borough council car parks had been pegged for the fourth successive year.

The bill for an 'average' Band D property has gone up from £1,510.90 to £1,537.25 excluding parish council precepts. But the council point out that most properties within West Lancs are in Bands A to C and so the majority of householders will pay less than that.

Councillor David Whittington, portfolio holder for resources, said: "The government is reducing our funding and many costs are rising. So we are delighted to have set a budget which maintains current services to the public while investing in important schemes to enhance our town centres and further boost the local economy."

The council is working on a draft Economic Development Strategy to help create new jobs and boost business growth and funding was approved for an officer to be employed to carry this strategy out and the council will also continue to fund a business engagement officer.

Councillor David Whittington

£95,000 has been earmarked for new CCTV cameras to be installed in Castlehey and Tanfields in Skelmersdale and the Burscough Street area of Ormskirk and the authority has set aside £210,000 to help with the implementation of the strategy for Ormskirk town centre which is currently out to public consultation.

A further £120,000 has been set aside for paving the square formed by the new Lancashire County Council youth zone next to Skelmersdale library, the police station and Nye Bevan Pool and the council is also looking to spend £30,000 on improving the entrance road to Beacon Country Park.

The council is also set to continue with its 'record' £65m investment in its housing stock but council tenants will see their rents increased by 2.2%.

It is estimated that by the end of the five–year programme nearly 4,000 homes will have new kitchens and nearly 5,000 will have new bathrooms.

A total of £2.67m has been budgeted for energy–efficiency measures and heating systems. The heating programme for next year includes fuel switching 190 properties from storage heaters to energy efficient A–rated gas boilers.

Other energy–efficiency works will include continued insulation improvements in lofts, cavities, flat roofs and bedrooms located over walkways.

New lifts are planned for several sheltered blocks and a potential re–modelling scheme is being considered for Evenwood Court. More details on this will be revealed during 2015/16.

Councillor Jane Houlgrave, portfolio holder for Housing, said: "The council continues to invest massively in its housing stock. The key driver for the budget is the tenant and council's spending plans reflect the things that the tenants have said are important to them."

Labour claim credit for changes

ALTHOUGH all their full motions were defeated, West Lancashire Labour Group are claiming they secured numerous changes to the Conservative budget proposals.

The Labour group also claimed credit for the decision to scrap the Mayor's Bar, where free alcohol was served to councillors after full council meetings.

However, independent Councillor Adrian Owens told the Champion that he moved the motion to end the practice, seconded by Labour Councillor Chris Wynn.

Labour voted through proposals for extra CCTV in Burscough Street, Ormskirk and Skelmersdale's Castlehey and Tanfields and also ensured that there will be no increase to councillors' allowances – despite officer recommendations – and the freezing of council tax for 2015/16.

Owens' stance prompts meeting 'impasse'

INDEPENDENT councillor Adrian Owens who holds the voting balance, caused chaos when he refused to vote with either of the Conservative and Labour parties when they presented their budget proposals for 2015/16.

Councillor Owens, who recently left the Conservatives to form the new Our West Lancashire group, said he had several amendments to ensure savings and had asked the leaders of both parties to meet to discuss these.

However, he claimed that both parties had refused to listen to his proposals and discuss the matters ahead of the meeting.

This 'impasse' resulted in recesses lasting a total of nearly an hour while the parties re–discussed their budget plans.

The two main parties then returned with some amendments – none of which included Cllr. Owens' proposals – and moved new budget proposals which were then accepted.

Cllr. Owens said after the meeting: "The hundreds of residents who signed our petition to cut costs rather than vital jobs and services now know clearly where they stand. Labour and Conservative showed tonight that they would rather score petty political points than work for the benefit of all in West Lancashire."

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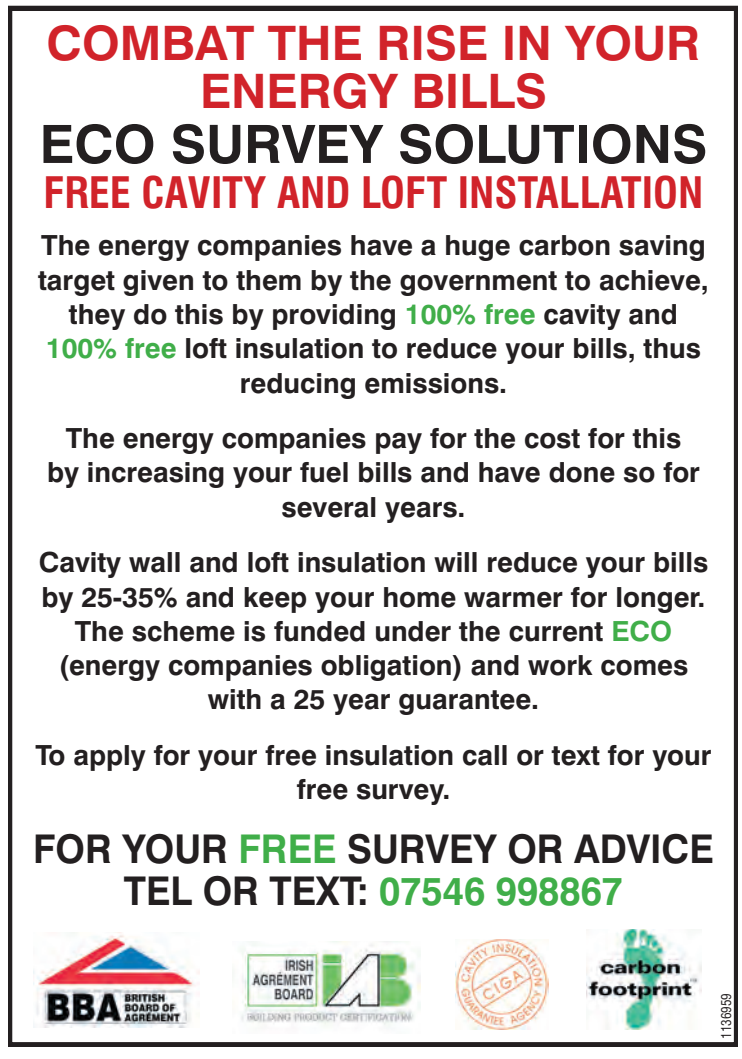
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Chapel Gallery

Image: *Jonathon Burton*

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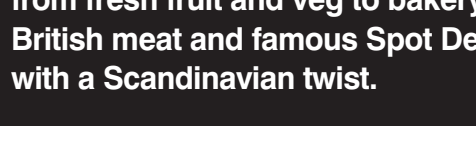

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Pupils help Martin Mere mark milestone

Now Champion readers can join in the 40th birthday celebrations with this special offer

Burscough Bridge Methodist School pupils with Martin Mere general manager Nick Brooks at the 40th anniversary celebrations last week **Code1078280**

PUPILS from Burscough Bridge Methodist School went along to WWT Martin Mere to celebrate the reserve's 40th birthday.

Youngsters from the school in Orrell Lane enjoyed a tour of the popular attraction and met general manager Nick Brooks before tucking into specially–created swan–themed cakes.

The visit was just one of the events held to mark the milestone and now management at the centre are teaming up with the Champion to offer our readers the chance to enjoy a FREE day out at the centre.

Simply take along a cutting of this article to Martin Mere between 9.30am and 3.30pm on Sunday, March 8 and two people (adults or children) will be admitted free of charge (worth £22).

Please note, no photocopies or print–outs from the website will be accepted and this offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other.

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BY ANSWERING ONE SIMPLE QUESTION you could win a three minute trolley dash around Netto's new Ormskirk store, with the chance to fill your trolley to the brim with Netto's great products from fresh fruit and veg to bakery, fresh British meat and famous Spot Deals with a Scandinavian twist.

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Cancer battle spurs appeal

• continued from Page 1

Michael told the Champion: "Emma had an operation in July which successfully removed 90% of the tumour but it is growing again and she is undergoing chemotherapy – her dose has tripled from the first course – in a bid to keep the tumour as small as possible.

"We are a very close family and we all want to raise as much awareness and money as possible for this charity.

"Emma's sister Hannah is running the Lichfield Marathon in May; her mother's partner is cycling and doing a marathon to fundraise and other family members are taking part in the Great Manchester Cycle in June.

"We will also be holding a coffee morning event at Tarleton Bowling Club on May 16 with raffles and a tombola."

And Tracy added: "We set up the challenge because our beautiful, intelligent, humorous and courageous daughter, Emma – sister to Hannah, Sam and Milly – was diagnosed with a grade three brain tumour.

"We want to raise as much money as possible for the charity to increase awareness and more importantly help fund lifesaving research as currently less than 2% of cancer research funds go on brain tumours."

Meanwhile Emma herself has already raised £1,800 for the Brain Tumour Charity, in memory of Leanne Maxwell a fellow brain tumour victim who she met when undergoing treatment but who sadly has since died at the age of 25.

• ANYONE who would like to support the appeal is asked to post a snap of themselves on Facebook with their pants on their head and nominate others to do so the same then text to 70070 with the code PANT86 and the amount they wish to donate.

Fundraising's a snip for salon superheroes

By **Danielle Thompson**

SUPER snippers at an Ormskirk hairdresser's studio became superheroes for a day when they donned capes and costumes to raise funds for a special cause.

Staff at the Unity Hair Studio in Moorgate staged a number of fundraising events, including a cake sale, raffle and sponsored dressing–up, on behalf of the Theo's Hope 4 Sound Appeal.

And their efforts raised a grand total of more than £500

The appeal aims to raise £90,000 to pay for Aughton youngster Theo Sankson to have specialist treatment abroad to enable him to hear.

The Champion revealed in January that the 10–month–old profoundly deaf tot's mum, Imelda had launched a fundraising drive to raise the money to fund the treatment by one of the world's leading surgeons in the field, Professor Colletti, in Milan, in a bid to prevent the youngster from having to live his life in a world of permanent silence.

The operation involves a tiny device being implanted into the brain and if successful would help Theo to hear.

But the family faces a race against time as the sooner the operation is done the better the chance of it being successful.

For more information about the appeal go to www.theoshope4sound.org.

• RIGHT: Superhero staff from Unity Hair Studio.

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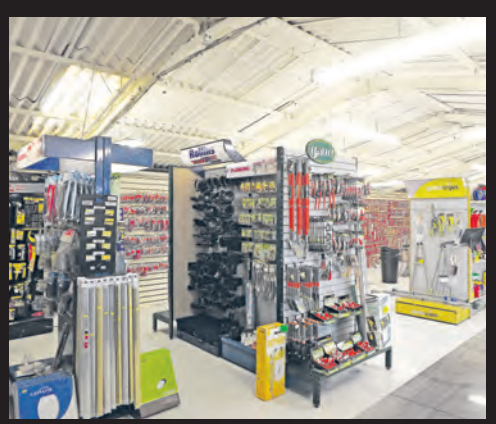

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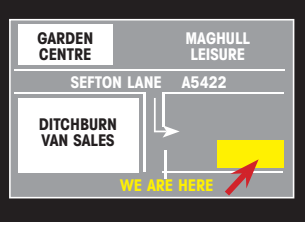

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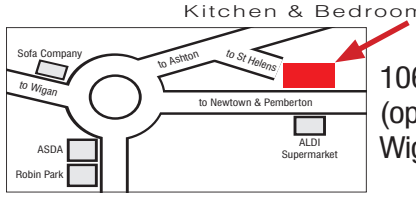

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Call for government to publish unedited version of report into potential impact of fracking

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

LANCASHIRE County Councillors are calling on the government to publish the full, unchanged report into the potential impact of the shale gas industry on the rural economy.

The councillors voted unanimously to call on the government to publish the complete Shale Gas Rural Economy Impacts report.

This was published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in July 2014 but with many parts redacted before publication.

A Notice of Motion moved by County Councillor Marcus Johnstone and seconded by County Councillor Gina Dowding at a meeting of the full council, calling on the government to release the full report, was approved unanimously.

Councillor Johnstone said: "Many people have concerns about the potential development of a shale gas industry, including the availability of relevant information about how the industry might affect the community they live in.

"This report could be a valuable source of information but it was heavily redacted when it was published and the government has so far been unwilling to release the full document.

"The Notice of Motion means that the council will now formally ask the government to release the report in full, in the interests of transparency."

Councillor Dowding added: "It's very clear from what you can see of this report that a large amount of information has been left out of the published version and it appears that the omissions include some significant details.

"The support given by all county councillors to the Notice of Motion reflects a belief that the public should be entitled to see that information, to contribute to a full and open debate.

"We hope the government will respond quickly and positively to our request."

The council's chief executive Jo Turton will now write to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on behalf of the council, asking for the complete report to be published.

County's therapy service relaunched

PSYCHOLOGICAL therapy services in Lancashire have been relaunched.

Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) team has undergone a makeover and relaunched as the Mindsmatter Service.

The new service provides a menu of talking therapies and resources to people who are experiencing low mood, stress and anxiety.

It also offers relaxation groups, stress control workshops, mindfulness, computer–assisted Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and counselling to help people manage stress and anxiety.

The team listened to comments from service users, GPs and local clinical commissioning groups on what they felt would improve the service.

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1138008

New homes plans prompt flood fear

Village action group warn of added strain on 'already overloaded' sewer network

RESIDENTS fear that plans to build more than 1,000 new homes in Burscough will put added strain on what they say is an already overloaded sewer network and lead to flooding.

Gavin Rattray, a member of the Burscough Action Group, told the Champion that he believes the proposed building programme will lead to more incidents of sewer flooding in the village .

Mr Rattray, from Liverpool Road South, said: "Six years ago United Utilities told West Lancashire Borough Council that they would strongly object to any large development in the Burscough catchment area because its sewer network was overloaded, could not cope with heavy rainfall and had significant flooding issues.

"They estimated then that it would cost in the order of tens of millions of pounds to resolve the problem.

"Yet we now know, from reading the Yew Tree Farm masterplan and correspondence that MP Rosie Cooper has had with United Utilities on behalf of Burscough Action Group, that there is no budget in place or plans to increase the capacity of the sewer network.

The A59 flooded due to sewage issues

"This is despite plans to build more than a thousand homes in Burscough and several hundred homes in Ormskirk and Rufford.

"The building boom in the Burscough catchment, much of it on green belt, will inevitably lead to an increase in the frequency of sewer flooding incidents, like the one on the A59 in Burscough.

"Burscough should only be developed when we are satisfied that the sewers in our electoral wards won't be overflowing."

Campaigners in 'Save NHS' protest

Members of Ormskirk 38 Degrees collecting signatures for the 'Save the NHS' campaign Code1078284

MEMBERS of the Ormskirk branch of a national protest group were out in force in the town centre at the weekend as part of a national 'Save our NHS' protest.

Supporters of the 38 Degrees group held the day of action on Saturday (February 28) at the Clock Tower, with similar actions being held throughout the country.

More than 600 people in the area have signed a petition directed to all the candidates standing in West Lancashire in May's General Election urging them to commit to protect the NHS from privatisation.

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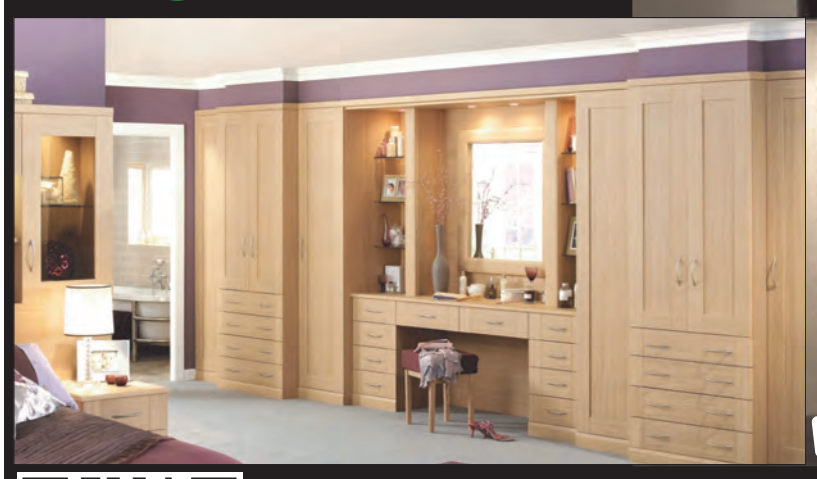

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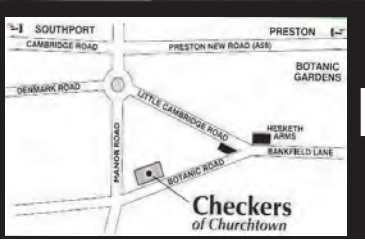

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1137791

Trust and Macmillan team up

Free health clinics for cancer sufferers

Report by **Ollie Cowan**

SOUTHPORT and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust is joining forces with Macmillan Cancer Information to offer free health and wellbeing clinics for people affected by cancer.

The first event will be held on Thursday, March 19.

The clinics will provide an opportunity for people to find out how to access local support, information and advice to help them and their families adjust to life with and beyond cancer. The first clinic will be held from 3.30pm at Southport Theatre and Convention Centre.

Jackie Brunton, cancer services manager/lead cancer nurse at the trust, said: "We're delighted to join forces again with the Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service building on the success of the previous two health and wellbeing clinics in 2014.

"We would also be delighted to welcome friends and family to come along as we understand how a cancer diagnosis affects not just the person with cancer."

Cancer nurse specialists will be on hand to offer advice and support, along with local organisations including Sefton Active Lifestyles, local benefits advisors and Sefton/West Lancs Carers Support.

Information on fitness, walking groups, diet, benefits, stopping smoking, and carers' support will also be available, as well as the opportunity to talk to other people living with and affected by cancer who may have had similar experiences.

Barbara Flowers, Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Centre manager, said: "We understand how patients can often feel they lose the safety net of support they receive while attending the hospital regularly for treatment.

"These events are designed to help people to return to everyday activities and make the most of the good things in their life. If you have any questions we are here to help."

Places are free but limited so booking is essential. For information or to book a place contact Helen, Barbara or Sarah at the Southport Macmillan Information and Support Centre on 0151 288 6893 or email SFCCG.macmillancic@nhs.net.

MP's vow on breast care services

ROSIE Cooper has vowed to continue to push for local access to breast care services and to ensure the quality of this service is maintained for borough residents.

The West Lancs MP said she was "shocked and very concerned" when Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust announced last September that it would not be accepting any new patients into its breast care services. Instead, West Lancashire residents would have to access services at neighbouring hospitals, such as Aintree and Wigan hospitals.

Negotiations

Since the announcement, Ms Cooper has been in contact with West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group and met with the chief executive of Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals.

Currently negotiations and plans for the future of service provision are underway, while Ms Cooper, a member of the Parliamentary Health Select Committee, has also written to the Health Secretary and NHS England.

Report by **Henry James**

The MP recently attended a drop–in public event in Burscough organised by West Lancashire CCG for breast care service patients to give their views on the service.

She said: "As I have previously said having breast care services delivered locally would always be my preference. Unfortunately the national shortage of radiologists is preventing Southport and Ormskirk Hospital from providing this service.

"Speaking to a number of patients at the drop–in event they were very clear on just how important it is for them to still have access to breast care locally.

"I welcome West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group's commitment to listening to patients and the public as they are the people who use and rely on these services. I would encourage people to get involved and have their say. By doing so they can help other West Lancashire residents if they need to use this service."

Rosie Cooper MP with CCG staff at a NHS listening event on breast care services in Burscough

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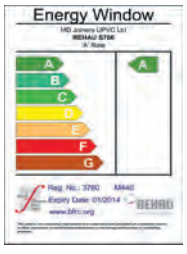

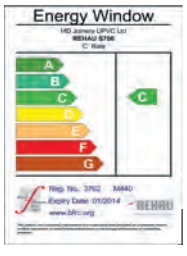

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Festival 'first' for community arts group dancers

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

MEMBERS of a club set up to help adults with learning difficulties to become more included in the community have been invited to take part in a competition against dancers from across the North of England.

Divine Days Community Arts, based in Burscough and Skelmersdale, was founded by Katie Whitehead, who runs therapeutic and educational programmes for individuals with additional needs, including creative dance and drama workshops.

Now members of the club's dance group, the Divine Dancers, who rehearse at The Greenhill Community Hub in Old Skelmersdale, have been asked by the organisers to compete in The Nelson Dance Festival in Colne after they saw the group performing at a dance event in Preston last year.

Excited

The Divine Dancers are the first group with additional needs to feature in the contest.

Eleven dancers from the group, aged from 19 to 45 years old, will perform contemporary dance routines which will also also feature ballet and tap dance categories.

The competion is held over two weekends, starting last Saturday and Sunday (February 28 and March 1) and contining this Saturday and Sunday, March 7 and 8.

Katie Whitehead said: "We are incredibly proud of all that our dancers have achieved.

Members of Divine Dancers **Code NA**

Divine Days was set up to raise awareness and promote inclusion and acceptance and this is such a huge step. We are all very excited to be taking part."

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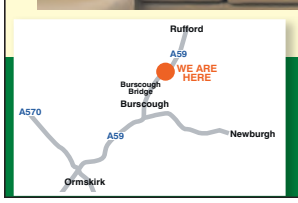

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

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Elderly and disabled in West Lancs deserve better public transport but who will help us?

I'M writing again in response to Hazel Anderton who found my previous letter "rather muddled". Bearing in mind we now know Hazel is a pensioner with a useless bus pass and a car, but without a local bus service, we can safely conclude we are of like minds.

As a member of the West Lancashire Pensioners' Forum (WLPF) that has collectively fought for years for the right of all elderly and many disabled residents not to be socially excluded because of poor or non–existent public or community transport, I can tell her she is being discriminated against by West Lancs Council and Lancashire County Council. Had Hazel been immobile her plight would have been even worse.

In 2011 WLBC stopped the concessionary £28 of tokens that until then could be used, especially by wheelchair users, on Dial–A–Ride to do what Hazel would prefer to do – go by bus service to the doctor, supermarket, post office, bank, dentist, Southport and to the trains.

Then there were a few more buses but barely one of them could take wheelchairs. Knowing this, because they were told often enough, including a petition signed by thousands and presented to Parliament by Rosie Cooper, WLBC went ahead with the useless 'one service fits all' Nowcard. Councillors passed the buck to LCC and its councillors also said no.

A Champion report told how elderly and disabled people cried when they realised their elected members imposed a policy of institutional discrimination on them merely for being disabled. One group badly hit by it were the trainees of MidStream, many with learning, physical, and other special needs. Overnight their personal travel costs multiplied four times, just for the sake of a few thousand pounds of council tax!

The WLPF has fought this ever since by asking Merseytravel, Merseyside MPs, local and county councillors, even government ministers, to provide what any civilised society should provide.

Why the call for free rail travel? Simply because there are virtually no medical services in West Lancs for badly disabled or ill residents. How many have to go to Liverpool and Wirral hospitals for treatment and how can they get there by bus?

For the record, from a WLBC Band D council tax of £1,486 the borough kept £183, the county took £1,086, the police took £153 and the fire service took £63. Merseytravel received almost £100million in public subsidies to provide public transport that extends into West Lancs yet we are excluded from the 'free' off–peak element enjoyed by Merseysiders.

We deserve better, but who will help us?

Alan Lenton, by email

It's time to lobby MPs and councillors over fracking

I WRITE to point out our serious objections to proposed fracking in our area.

Since recent government and shale gas company announcements of proposed fracking, property sales in all areas are subject to fracking declaration clauses which reduce property valuations by up to 25%.

Agricultural land values have also been depressed due to the damaging environmental effects on crops in fracking areas through use of damaging chemicals used in extraction.

Proposals have been considered by an independent Commons select committee who have called for a halt to fracking as proposed due to its detrimental effects, which has been ignored by government but has caused the Scottish Parliament to ban fracking.

It appears that the North West is fair game to this government. There are no proposals for fracking in the south where land and property values are already much higher. There is no evidence that shale gas does not exist in these areas.

Local politicians should act in the interest of people in the areas they represent as have the Scottish Parliament and should be lobbied by the public to do so.

If you live in the North West contact your councillors and MPs to act on your behalf.

Brian Young,
Renacres Lane, Halsall

PICTURE of the week

www.champnews.com/pixonline

Off to a flying start

The first session of Wigan Athletic's 'Kicks' soccer coaching programme got under way at Skelmersdale fire station last week.

Picture by Martyn Snape.

Code: 1078245.

Why are cyclists not fined for flouting laws?

WHY are cyclists not fined for using the pavements in Southport and also in the pedestrianised centre of Ormskirk where there are signs banning it?

A few years ago a man died in Lord Street when he hit his head on the pavement after being knocked down by a cyclist.

Also, many cyclists are showing just one blinking red light at the rear, or none at all, when the law states that there must be one steady white light at the front and one steady red light at the back. Winking lights are only an optional extra.

Police nowadays are very, very rare and actually fining someone for breaking the law now is unknown.

Concerned cyclist, Redgate, Ormskirk

So, why can't they incorporate solar panels into all new homes?

I HAVE read the latest letters on fracking with interest, meanwhile, here in Mawdesley we have a company seeking to build a huge solar farm the size of 24 football pitches.

People who have lived here for years are obviously upset.

The representative of the company behind the scheme was questioned at a recent village meeting and admitted that they already had 11 solar farms.

But what some of us cannot understand – and I would like government to explain to everyone concerned, whether it be fracking or solar farms plans – is why all new houses (and many thousands have been built over the last few years) have not had solar panels incorporated into their structure?

If they had done this, all those people who may have paid extra on their mortgage would now all be self–sufficient in heating and they may also have been able to sell some on helping them to pay their mortgage.

There is still time to do this, so why don't they?

Why can't they put solar panels on any shops, public buildings or anywhere else that is not chewing up our green space?

Although we're asking why, I think that we probably know the answer.

However, why so many Northerners don't seem too bothered about losing their land beats me.

Somehow I can't see the government covering Cornwall, Devon, Sussex etc. in fracking sites and solar farms without a serious argument, can you?

Once our green spaces are gone they're gone for good!

Pauline O'Keefe, Mawdesley

Tell us what you think!
editor@champnews.com

. . . and so say all of us!

• I AM deeply concerned that the pro fracking lobby/PR machine seems to be achieving more coverage than those who oppose it when most surveys, both locally and regionally, are overwhelmingly against it.

The independent committee set up by the government to look at fracking recommend not to push ahead but on the same day they published their findings the government ignored them and insisted on trying to push this forward. Only Scotland declared they would not agree to fracking at the moment.

Westminster just want to 'balance the books' whatever the cost. As the North is not as important to them as their voters in the Home Counties, they are happy to let it become the fracking centre of the UK.

If fracking is so safe why is it now being banned in parts of America and all of France and Germany?

Lynn Campbell, New Cut Lane, Halsall

• I AM opposed to fracking in principle as it sanctions and re–enforces the use of fossil fuels as the primary source of power generation; thus maintaining on–going damage to the environment.

This continuing commitment and reliance on fossil fuels therefore reduces the likelihood of investment and development in 'greener' alternative forms of power generation.

We owe it to future generations to protect and preserve a balanced, thriving and sustainable world ecology.

Patrick Lindon, Dicconsons Lane, Halsall

• HAVING watched an independent film called Gasland, fracking in the USA is nothing short of an environmental holocaust.

Once established, the fracking corporations act as they please, which is in their interests only.

Residents in many areas can set their taps on fire because not all the gas is collected. The independent film shows huge rural areas that are so void of life you'd think it was footage of the moon.

A spokesman for the fracking industry says: "Water contamination is inevitable."

Please watch the trailer and then the film.

Chris Carr, Abbeywood, Skelmersdale

• FRACKING is a dirty energy source. People in Lancashire do not welcome this blight on our doorstep.

Our government and energy companies need to invest in green solutions. Fracking will not provide long–term employment, this has been proven in America.

Karen Field, Astland Gardens, Tarleton

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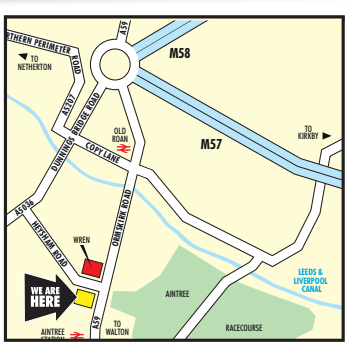

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Council hit back in play area no–smoking scheme row

THE borough council has hit back at Labour claims it refused to join up to a no–smoking scheme for children's play areas parks by pointing it already runs its own scheme.

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper and County Councillor, Nikki Hennessy slammed the council's decision to opt–out of Lancashire County Council's Smokefree play scheme, a voluntary code aimed at encouraging people not to smoke in play areas.

But a council spokesman said the authority had operated a voluntary no–smoking scheme in its play areas for the last three years and all information signs would be installed by the end of this month. These incorporate the no–smoking symbol, along other information including the full address of the play area including the postcode, a council contact number and the park rules which include a request to visitors not to smoke.

The spokesman added: "Joining the county council scheme would have entailed installing further new no–smoking signs at public expense and diverting staff to advise people found smoking about the code and signposting them to smoking cessation facilities."

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National award for Edge Hill Students' Union

Kayley Wilson accepts the award from Lord Patel

EDGE Hill Students' Union has won national recognition for its mental health awareness training programme.

Union president, Kayley Wilson, accepted the Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Award on behalf of her team, in recognition of their exemplary work to raise mental health literacy through the innovative use of mental health first aid training.

She was presented with the certificate by Professor Lord Patel of Bradford, patron of MHFA, at the House of Lords.

MHFA was introduced to England in 2006 and has since trained 85,500 people in mental health life–saving skills. It is designed to equip people with the knowledge and confidence to spot the signs and symptoms of someone in distress and offer help on a first aid basis.

Kayley Wilson said: "We are overjoyed that our ongoing commitment to tackling stigma associated with mental illness has been recognised. We would like to thank Christine Clark, MHFA trainer, for the nomination and her for investing her time in us.

"The close partnership between Edge Hill Students' Union and the university has delivered a comprehensive and concerted awareness–raising campaign which has included making the Time to Change Pledge in March, and marking World Mental Health Day by hosting a highly successful conference and a number of associated activities in October.

"However, we wanted to do more than just raise awareness. We wanted to make sure that staff and students were equipped with the necessary skills to identify mental health issues at an early stage to prevent potential harm and ensure the correct support and guidance may be provided.

"We decided to take part in MHFA and encourage as many of our own staff members, university staff members and students to take part in the training. We found it very useful and informative, it gives practical solutions to potential scenarios and we plan more MHFA training sessions this year for both students and staff members. We want to make sure that no one has to struggle alone."

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Kids connect with nature

YOUNGSTERS at a local nursery can enjoy 'going back to nature' following the opening of a special 'forest garden'.

To mark the opening of the facility, children at Springfield Montessori Nursery in Aughton enjoyed a range of activities including tree–planting, bug–hunting and becoming nature spotters.

The garden, which includes wooden 'mushrooms' big enough to walk on and a birdhouse sculpture, is in Springfield Forest within the nursery grounds and staff can take the children into the forest to take part in fun, structured and educational activities such as making dens and building bird feeders.

Forest leader, Sarah Gray, said: "The forest garden is a wonderful opportunity for all of the children to be outside and connect with nature."

Children walk the wooden mushrooms

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Manager Paul Kane feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 10 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Crosby, Litherland, Aintree, Maghull, Walton, Anfield, Netherton, Bootle, Formby, Ormskirk and Skelmersdale areas & Paul is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. *'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'*

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Transport services

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Recreational and occupational activities

It can be easy to lose touch with friends as you get older and that can sometimes mean social activities can come to a stand still. This doesn't have to be the case as there are many services out there to help you back into the community in the form of games, lectures, games, outings, and help with living skills and even budgeting.

Community Transport

Community transport is a service for members of the public who find it difficult to get around during the day.

The Dial-A-Ride scheme is one of the main initiatives for providing transport to disabled and elderly members of the community so they can go shopping and use local amenities without having to worry about public transport and taxis.

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University celebrates Chinese New Year

STUDENTS at Edge Hill University staged a number of activities to celebrate Chinese New Year including acrobats, jar jugglers and a street market on the campus.

The university's Confucius Institute turned the Hub into a market place to celebrate the start of the Year of the Goat and other festivities included a Chinese Tea Ceremony, dim sum, calligraphy, paper folding and zodiac animals, with stalls staffed by students helping visitors to understand different aspects of Chinese culture.

Visitors, staff and students were able to try out traditional Chinese costumes before experiencing an acrobatic display by the Jin Long Chinese Martial Arts Academy and the audience enjoyed traditional entertainments such as jar juggling, face changing, body sculpture and rolling rug during the performance.

Dressed for the occasion...students Laura Bell, Rebecca Garrett and Chloe Bell trying on Chinese traditional dress as part of Edge Hill's celebration of the onset of The Year of The Goat

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Catholic association seeks new members

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

OFFICIALS of the Ormskirk branch of the Catenian Association, a voluntary Catholic organisation, are appealing for new members.

The group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at Hurlston Hall in Scarisbrick and although current membership is described as "healthy", newcomers are always welcome.

The Catenian Association, founded in Manchester in 1908, is made up of groups known as circles with members referred to as brothers. Currently, the Ormskirk branch (Circle 285), has 53 members having been set up in 1978 with an initial membership of 24.

Andrew Pritchard, from the Ormskirk Circle, said: "We celebrated our 400th meeting in October last year and have a healthy number of members but more are always welcome."

The assocation is open to all Catholics and although sometimes described as the Roman Catholic Church's best–kept secret, Andrew was keen to stress it is not a secretive group. "We are based on fraternity and unity and believe that the youth of today are worth investing in by awarding bursary awards.

"The association is open and non–elitist, and offers support, friendship, and social activities which are supplementary to existing social life and most importantly involve wives and families.

"You can find us on Facebook, Twitter and Linked In and we have a monthly magazine. There is always lots going on and recently we held our annual Clergy Night on Shrove Tuesday (February 17) attended by the Archbishop of Liverpool, the Right Reverend Malcolm McMahon."

Anyone requiring more information can visit thecatenians.co.uk or contact Ian Robinson on 01257 462100 or by email at r.i.robinson60@btinternet.com.

Edge Hill professor stages exhibition of unseen work by Lancashire artist

PREVIOUSLY unseen work by a Lancashire–born artist is to go on display in Liverpool as part of a collection put together by an Edge Hill University academic.

As part of his research into surrealist painter, Leonora Carrington, Professor Roger Shannon has uncovered a number of pieces which have never publicly been exhibited before.

These will be on display in the new exhibition at Tate Liverpool opening on Friday (March 6), the first UK solo exhibition of Carrington's work in more than 20 years.

Carrington, who died in 2011 at the age of 94, turned her back on her upper–class upbringing in Clayton–le–Woods, Chorley in the 1930s and eventually settled in Mexico.

Professor Shannon said: "When I first became aware of Leonora Carrington's work, it struck me that a significant aspect of the North West's cultural heritage had been under–recognised. This was the spur to my research into her extensive creative output and the impact of her background."

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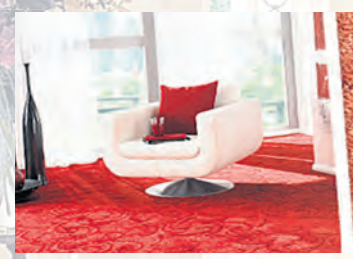
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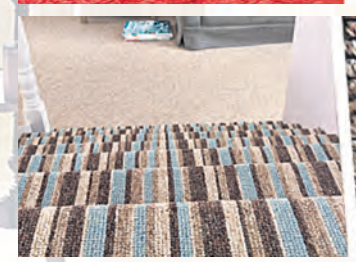
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"In the Early Years Foundation Stage, children are extremely safe and secure. They confidently learn to share equipment and to play happily together.."

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www.stthomasthemartyr.org

With so many parents both working full time these days the issue of childcare is a major one. There are several options available but choosing the right one for your family can sometimes be a difficult task. Before you make a decision:

- Give yourself plenty of time to choose. Holiday play schemes and other seasonal childcare service can booked up well in advance.
- Make appointments to visit two or three providers to compare what's on offer. This will allow you to look at the services available and chat to the staff.
- Always consider your child in your decision, even if they are far too young to make a choice themselves. Where do you think they would prefer?
- Ask other parents for recommendations
- Check opening times, holiday dates and costs

What type of services are available?

Private day nurseries

These are open from Monday to Friday and can look after your child between the hours of 7.30am – 6.00pm.

They are available for children aged 3 months to five years of age and although they are private, there are several Government schemes to help you meet the cost if you feel you are struggling.

All are means tested and funding could be one call away. These nurseries are OFSTED inspected and follow the Governments Early Years Foundation Stage structure of learning.

After school and breakfast clubs

These can be provided by schools or private nurseries and provide care for your child before or after school, or both. Learning is structured and children are always provided with healthy snacks or meals.

Playgroups

Playgroups offer care for your child several times a week usually, for a morning or an afternoon and work in conjunction with the Early Years Foundation Stage.

They can help your child to interact and start learning at an age where they are too young to go to school.

Holiday Play schemes

Children have a lot more time off school than parents have off work and so for those times holiday play schemes can come in very handy.

They offer childcare only in school holidays and can help the child develop and learn while making sure they are safe and well cared for. >>

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Ofsted reported...

'Children have fun and settle happily into the Early Years Foundation Stage.'
'Through excellent planning and exciting topics that interest the children, adults successfully extend children's speaking, listening and creative skills within the Early Years Foundation Stage.'
'In the Early Years Foundation Stage, care and welfare are excellent. The children share equipment well, take turns and are happy to talk about their learning.'

Our parents say:

'Thank you for all of your help and support.'
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Questions to ask childcare providers ...

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- safety – what happens in an emergency?
- are the premises secure (can strangers get in)?
- what training and experience do the carers have?
- how does the provider report safety incidents to parents?
- do the carers know first aid?
- what is the staff's view on discipline?
- what activities are on offer?
- what happens if you are late picking up your child?
- what food is provided (is it healthy)?
- who can you talk to about your child's progress?
- what happens if your child becomes ill?

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- Information about childcare options and facilities
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A warm welcome awaits you at all of our Children's Centres. Just call in or phone any one of the Centres for details of the groups and activities on offer.

Did you know that as well as all children in England and Wales being entitled to free funded childcare the term after they turn 3 years old, some 2 year olds are now also entitled to free childcare. Further information is available on Lancashire County Councils website or via your local Children's Centre.

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First Steps Children's Centre
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For the most up to date information, visit our Facebook page - West Lancashire Childrens Centres

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Quotes from OFSTED 2013 include:

"With excellent teaching in the bright and well organised Nursery and Reception classes, they make brisk progress and enter Year 1 with skill levels above the national average."

"A warm and welcoming ethos exists where the adults ensure that pupils are treated equally, feel safe and enjoy school"

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OFSTED 2014 quote

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Holland Moor's Nursery offers part-time education to children of two years or more. All classes meet in our beautiful purpose-built building offering the very best of facilities.

Our nursery children are encouraged to participate in a wide range of activities to extend and build upon their existing skills, interests and knowledge through themes that are meaningful and interesting to them. It is also important to us that they have fun, enjoy coming to nursery and gain a thirst for learning.

- Free breakfast club 7.30am until start of school - all ages
- 1 morning nursery class - 2 year olds (free places available)
- 1 afternoon nursery class - 2 year olds (free places available)
- 2 morning nursery classes - 3 and 4 year olds
- 1 afternoon nursery class - 3 and 4 year olds
- Wraparound nursery care from 11.30am to 17.45 - 3 and 4 year olds
- Windmill after-school care club 3pm to 17.45pm - all ages

For more information, contact

Holland Moor Primary School, Cornbrook, Skelmersdale, Lancashire WN8 9AG
Tel: 01695 725062 • Fax: 01695 559304
E-mail: head@hollandmoor.lancs.sch.uk
Our Website: www.holland.lancsngfl.ac.uk

1137466

Advertising Feature

NEW £5 MILLION RECEPTION SCHOOL BUILD NOW OPEN

Mrs Abila Pointing MBE DL, the High Sheriff of Merseyside, recently opened a multi-million pound redevelopment at Merchant Taylors' Primary School, Stanfield. The two year, two-phase project undertaken by Eric Wright Construction, a division of the Eric Wright Group, was completed in December and is the second major build project at Merchant Taylors' Schools, Liverpool in the last 5 years. It is part of an overall 10 year development strategy, the next stage of which is already being planned.

Guests, including former members of staff, were invited to a special ceremony to mark the official opening of the impressive new build which is now fully operational since the beginning of the new school term in January. Mrs Pointing unveiled a plaque and talked about the value of a good education. She then met representatives of the school council who took her, and other guests, on a tour around the new facilities.

The multi-phase construction programme, the launch of which was marked by an official steel signing ceremony in 2013 by Liverpool Captain Steven Gerrard, is delivering pioneering education facilities for its 360 students, with a whole suite of purpose-built classrooms and specialist teaching rooms, a new dining hall, kitchen, library and fully-equipped medical rooms as well as additional office space and an impressive new glass fronted reception area.

Designed by architects Saunders Bell, the project also included partial demolition of the school's former prefabricated and somewhat tired buildings. A new horizontal extension links the new facilities to the school's remaining buildings some of which have also been refurbished.

Merchant Taylors' Primary School, Stanfield has remained fully operational during the build phase and all efforts were made by the Constructors to make sure there was no disruption to the school day. In fact the team at Eric Wright, led by enthusiastic Project Manager Kevin Burgoyne, involved pupils throughout the whole project by incorporating viewing windows into the building area and introducing aspects such as health & safety and engineering talks into the curriculum, as well as hosting live demonstrations on concrete production. Each pupil signed their name on a numbered brick, which was then used during the construction phase. The infants were also given their own yellow hard hat as a keepsake.

John Wilson, managing director of Eric Wright Construction, said: **"Merchant Taylors' Schools have a rich history spanning nearly 400 years for providing the best education for life and these state-of-the-art facilities will enhance learning opportunities for generations to come.**

"The school was committed and engaging throughout the entire project, with the children's interest in the extensive project enabling them to incorporate the build process as a learning tool. It has probably been one of our most enjoyable projects to work on."

Miss Julie Yardley, Head of Merchant Taylors' Primary School, Stanfield added **"I am delighted with this superb new build. Whilst the quality of our teaching at the School has always remained at an exceptionally high level, over the last few years the facilities were becoming somewhat tired and expensive to maintain. The much needed redevelopment incorporates a new large hall and kitchens, several classrooms, resource rooms, practice rooms and a dedicated library as well as a fully equipped medical room and other bespoke rooms for specialist teaching of IT, art, music and drama. Our Reception pupils are now fully settled into their purpose built early years' classrooms and outdoor undercover play areas. The staff, pupils and parents are absolutely thrilled with the new facilities.** I would like to thank the builders Eric Wright for their expert handling of such a major redevelopment, most of which took place whilst the school was fully operational. We now feel they are very much part of the Merchants' family."

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Breathe Easy members learn about 'get it off your chest' project

Report by **Henry James**

BERNICE Hayes of the Yewdale Counselling Service in Skelmersdale was guest speaker at the latest meeting of the West Lancashire and Southport Breathe Easy group when she told members about the service's Off The Chest project.

She explained how Yewdale has been awarded specific lottery funding to help people suffering from chest problems, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), who would like counselling in the next year free of charge.

The service is a registered charity and their professional voluntary counsellors offer their time and expertise to provide much–needed one–to–one counselling to the community across West Lancs and Southport.

This service is available by arrangement at their offices at Sue Mobey House, Yewdale but home visits can also be arranged by telephone for up to eight visits each lasting about 50 minutes.

Pat Ireland from the Breathe Easy group said: "Whatever is concerning you, getting it 'off your chest' can help to give you a different perspective and leave you feeling better able to get on with life. You can be referred by your GP or community matron or you can refer yourself.

"Counsellors are fully trained to deal with loss – not just bereavement, but loss of any kind such as self–esteem, health or peace of mind. Complete confidentiality is guaranteed and counsellors are fully qualified, belonging to the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy. Relaxation and Reiki can also be offered by Yewdale, if wished.

"The medical and practical needs of our group members, and/or their carers, are addressed frequently by our speakers and this is greatly appreciated, of course. However, it's excellent to learn that Yewdale can offer this confidential service to help with the emotional issues thrown up by chronic illness and we are most grateful to Bernice for coming to tell us all about it"

The group's next meeting will be held on Monday, March 16 from 11am at the Girl Guide Headquarters in Green Lane, Ormskirk when the speaker will be local respiratory consultant, Dr Chris McManus.

Bernice Hayes is shown with Breathe Easy group chairman Harry Thacker

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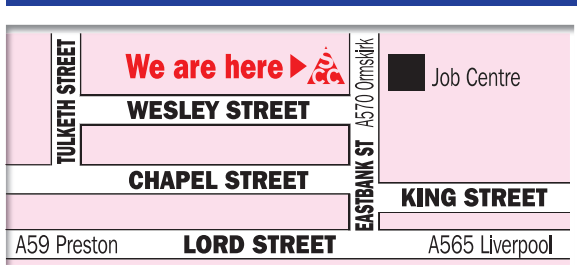

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Cat owners urged to report air gun attacks

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

CAT owners in West Lancashire are being urged to report any air gun attacks on their pets after a national report found that four in 10 veterinary practices in the UK had treated an injured cat in the last year.

The survey, released by the British Veterinary Association, found that 41% of veterinary practices had seen cats brought to them with airgun injuries in the last 12 months.

And national charity, Cats Protection, has launched a Manifesto for Cats in the House of Commons which seeks tighter regulations on the licensing of airguns.

According to one local vet, although such attacks on cats have been reported in the borough, they are not common.

A spokesperson for Northway Veterinary Centre on Liverpool Road, Ormskirk, told the Champion: "Sadly, we have treated cats for airgun injuries, but thankfully it isn't a common occurrence.

"Luckily, the last one that we treated made a complete recovery and suffered no lasting injuries."

An RSPCA spokesperson commented: "Sadly cats are often the target of air gun attacks, simply because they spend a lot of time out in the open with no one to protect them.

"There have been a number of cats attacked with air weapons in the last few years and the sad reality is that a lot of the injuries caused by attacks such as these are not only horrific, but can often be fatal.

"A worrying factor is that these attacks are also often deliberate acts by people who just don't care about causing an animal pain or those who are deliberately targeting cats for going into their gardens.

"The RSPCA takes attacks like this very seriously and we would like to remind people that they face penalties of up to six months in prison and/or a £20,000 fine if they are caught and found guilty under the Animal Welfare Act of deliberately using an air gun to injure an animal."

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Avocets wing back to Martin Mere in time for breeding season

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

A DISTINCTIVE wading bird that has become a symbol of conservation has returned to Martin Mere.

Three avocets, noted for their striking black–and–white plumage and long, upcurved beaks, have been spotted at the Burscough wetland centre this month.

The bird, which is the emblem of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, symbolises the bird protection movement in the UK more than any other species.

They are expected to remain at the mere until early August using the reserve as their breeding ground.

In the past, numbers have reached 100 birds and it is hoped that this year could bring record numbers.

Avocets spend the winter either on the south coast or in Mediterranean countries.

Ten years ago avocets were quite rare in this area but WWT Martin Mere has been able to introduce a number of initiatives to help manage the wetlands, ensuring the habitat is perfect for summer wading birds in the hope to raise the number of birds breeding. These have included the purchasing of rare breed cattle who act like lawn mowers with their selective grazing patterns, hay making in late summer and early autumn once all of the youngsters have hatched and left their nests, and by controlling the water level to adapt the habitat for the needs of summer and wintering birds.

Avocets have been spotted at Martin Mere

Centre manager, Nick Brooks, said: "The fact that we are continuing to raise numbers of these wading birds is a testament to the reserve wardens for their hard work in making the land suitable for waders to breed. Spring and summer is a really nice time at the centre to watch migrating wader birds and their chicks, and we are looking forward to yet another successful breeding season."

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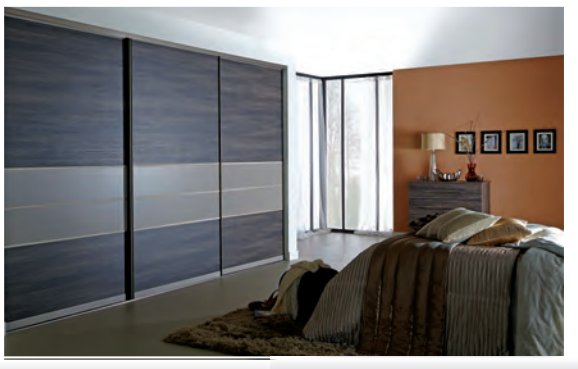

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Celebrating our 21st year!

This week the Champion marks 21 years of publishing your favourite newspaper.

We all like to celebrate special milestones and here at the Champion we are no different – especially on hearing we are now the largest free newspaper title in the UK.

That's some achievement for a paper which began life in the unusual surroundings of two hotel bedrooms way back in March 1994.

Back then, of course, the owners of the Champion had no idea that 21 years later they would be the proud custodians of not one, but EIGHT Champion titles!

And, amid the sad news of newspaper closures locally and nationally, that is quite some achievement.

Now, as our celebrations get underway, Champion Newspapers can this week reveal an unprecedented door to door circulation of 163,120 – according to independently audited ABC figures.

That six-figure number is now more than double what the publishers of the Champion envisaged when the title was launched all those years ago.

It was originally intended that the Champion would be distributed to 78,000 homes in Southport, Formby and Ormskirk – not bad for a fledgling newspaper launch. But as news of the Champion spread, so too did our titles... to Skelmersdale, Aintree & Maghull, Crosby & Litherland, Bootle & Netherton and most recently Anfield & Walton in North Liverpool.

All those Champions – all 163,120 of them – now make our newspaper the largest audited door to door free weekly newspaper in the land. Some achievement and one we are immensely proud of.

As paid-for newspaper circulations continue to decline or even worse, close, Champion Newspapers continually bucks the trend.

With our titles now across North Merseyside and West Lancashire, the Champion has given readers and advertisers a campaigning free newspaper in towns and villages where the established local newspaper has ceased publishing or where communities were not previously served by a weekly local paper.

Just last month, Trinity Mirror announced the closure of the *Crosby Herald* and the *Formby Times.* Both publications date back to the nineteenth century. Fortunately, readers in both towns and surrounding districts can depend on the Champion dropping through their letterbox each Wednesday.

Champion Newspapers could not have achieved its position as the leading local newspaper in the area without the remarkable dedication of those that have produced and delivered the newspaper over the years.

As a local employer Champion Newspapers is proud of its fifty full time members of staff who demonstrate dedication and true professionalism week in and week out, in producing award winning newspapers.

The Champion was named North West free newspaper of the year in 2012 and short listed again in 2013 and 2014 at the prestigious O2 Newspaper Awards. Add to that a string of other awards for Champion journalists and an Outstanding Achievement honour for Champion co-founder Betty Drummond, and it's clear to see just why the Champion has matured into the publication it is today.

It is a privilege to publish a truly independent, politically unbiased, campaigning local newspaper that serves so many local communities in Sefton, West Lancashire and North Liverpool.

With the support of readers and advertisers alike we hope to continue to do so for many years to come. — Happy 21st!

The teams that deliver yo

EDITORIAL
01704 392 400

The Champion's editorial content has been key to our growing success for many years. Our reporters are proud to bring the news and stories that matter to you every week. Properly representing our local area means a great deal to us and it is imperative for our editor and his team are totally independent and never shy in showcasing the local news that effects us all. No wonder the team has garnered so many awards over the years.

Always approachable, always interested, Champion reporters are YOUR champions and always welcome your news, views and messages.

PRODUCTION
01704 392 320

These are the people behind how your Champion looks. Our designers create clients' advertisements and special features, plan and execute the production of our newspapers as well as our magazines and websites.

They also undertake the design and production of brochures, flyers, magazines and websites for our clients.

ADVERTISING SALES
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Our advertising sales team is totally dedicated to delivering an ever-growing audience of readers for our advertisers. With eight editions, this close knit group care about great results and develop long lasting professional relationships with our advertisers, based upon honesty and efficiency.

They can also help with readers small ad requirements including family announcements and bargain buys.

DISTRIBUTION
01704 392 345

These are the people responsible for every copy of the Champion finding its way to our readers.

With over 160,000 homes delivered to every week, this is by no means an easy task. Our army of more than 800 distributors ensure the safe delivery of our newspapers and leaflets and a dedicated team 'spot check' throughout the region to ensure that deliveries are efficiently made and accounted for.

We deliver the news to more than 16

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Source: ABC audited free letterbox circulation

Dictionary definition of **'Champion'**

n. Someone who has surpassed all rivals or other competition

v. One who vigorously supports or defends people and causes

our Champion

MAGAZINES
01704 392 300

Responsible for the ever-popular and growing list of Champion Focus supplements and allied features, our magazine team also produce the world's leading magazine dedicated to the world of Line dancing.

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Champions at the heart of the local community

Lyndsey Naylor and Betty Drummond

The Champion is all about ethics. It's about being honest, it is about believing in the local community and supporting it. It's about being consistent and delivering results that can be measured, every week. Such values are driven by the people that head the company.

Lyndsey Naylor is our Managing Director and she believes that the Champion's unique quality is its very real link to the community it represents.

She says, "Being local is the best way of being relevant to the readers we want to reach. Every member of the Champion team cares because they both know the area well and love living here.

"It has to mean something and ultimately because we are a local company we have the very best relationship between our advertisers and our readers."

Betty Drummond is one of our founders and our CEO. Her glittering career in publishing has meant that, while many players in the industry cut down (or worse, closed down), she has been the driving force behind the Champion's continued expansion.

She told The Guardian in 2012, "We believe passionately in the value of local newspapers and the vital role they play in supporting the local economy.

"When a business wants to reach local customers, there is nothing in this world that can match a local newspaper, delivered with consistent reliability into every home, every week."

60,000 homes every week!

Source: ABC Audited data

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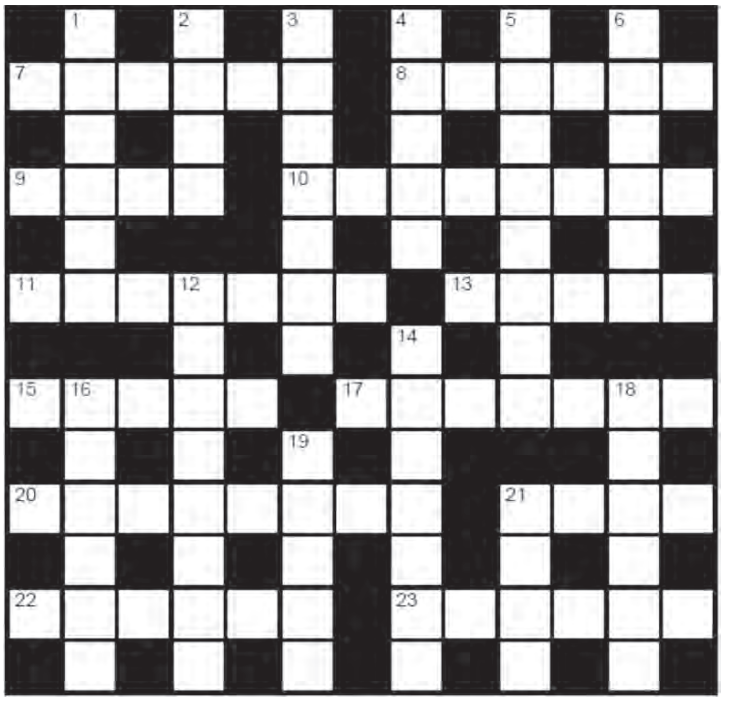

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7 Superb. 8 Acetic. 9 Surf. 10 Trainman. 11 Beholds. 13 Folio. 15 First. 16 Stick up. 18 Seashore. 19 Mint. 21 Ascend. 22 Handle.

Down: 1 Guru. 2 Self-possessed. 3 Ebbtide. 4 Banal. 5 Reinforcement. 6 Tiramisu. 12 Epilepsy. 14 Utrecht. 17 Dowdy. 20 Null.

ACROSS

7 Boneless cut or slice of meat or fish (6)
8 Counterbalance (6)
9 Cathedral chapter head (4)
10 Cloudy (8)
11 Monumental structure with square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet in a point at the top (7)
13 Colourless volatile liquid used as an anaesthetic (5)
15 Domesticated South American pack animal related to the camel (5)
17 Coastal area, especially a beach or resort (7)
20 Overwhelm (8)
21 Formal agreement, treaty (4)
22 Drooping of the upper eyelid due to paralysis (6)
23 Hairpiece (6)

DOWN

1 Great distress (6)
2 Style, flair (4)
3 Substitute, deputy (5-2)
4 Slang term for a hooligan or lout (5)
5 Divine creative impulse or inspiration (8)
6 Bewilder (6)
12 Reprimand firmly (8)
14 At a lower level (7)
16 The quality of being kind or gentle (6)
18 Avoided (6)
19 A rope with a noose at the one end, used in catching animals (5)
21 Oval fleshy fruit containing a flattish pointed stone (4)

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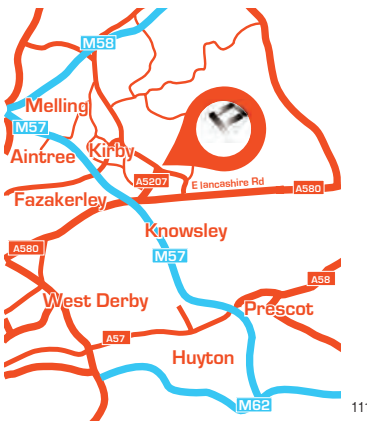

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Parking 'fines' may be illegal says motoring charity

DRIVERS across the country could be in line for refunds of 'illegal' parking penalties, according to a motoring charity.

The RAC Foundation, a transport policy and research organisation that explores the economic, mobility, safety and environmental issues relating to roads and their users, found that overstay penalties in car parks on private land could be unenforceable in court as the charges, reaching £100 or more, were more expensive than compensation for a genuine loss.

Barrister John de Waal said, in a legal opinion for the charity, that the charges should be seen by the courts as penalties, making them unenforceable.

The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 banned clamping/towing a vehicle without lawful authority on private land but the RAC said private car parks were resorting instead to overstay penalty charges.

The report also found that penalties increasing in cost the longer they are unpaid could constitute a 'price escalation clause' contradicting European consumer legislation requiring contracts to be fair – meaning that millions of drivers could be due a refund.

Patrick Troy, from the British Parking Association, which represents private parking companies, said: "The genuine pre–estimate of loss argument has been a bone of contention for many years and so we look forward to the Court of Appeal reaching a decision."

And a Department for Transport spokeswoman commented: "Parking in private car parks means that motorists enter a contract with the landowner and the courts must decide if the level of a parking fine is justified should there be a dispute."

Motorists can challenge their parking ticket through the independent appeal service, Parking on Private Land Appeals.

Health chiefs welcome ban on smoking in cars with children

COUNTY health chiefs have welcomed the recent vote in the House of Commons to ban smoking in cars when children are passengers.

Following the vote anyone lighting up in a car with a child under 18 present will be breaking the law and could be fined. This change in the law will come into effect on October 1.

Second–hand (or passive) smoke from cigarettes is dangerous and can be responsible for a range of health problems including bronchitis, asthma and glue ear, and is especially dangerous to children.

County Councillor Azhar Ali, Lancashire County Council's cabinet member for health and wellbeing, welcomed the vote and said: "There is no doubt that second–hand smoke is a killer and research has shown that it has a terrible effect on children's health. We think that this ban is a huge step forward and will lead to improvements in people's health in the future.

"The smoke is much more concentrated in cars and research has shown that opening the window to let the fumes out makes little difference.

"Children are especially at risk because they have smaller blood vessels and their organs are still developing. Therefore they breathe faster and inhale more toxic chemicals than adults.

"Nationally, there is research to show how dangerous passive smoking is and children have a right to breathe in clean air that won't make them ill."

Lancashire County Council is also encouraging people to sign up to its Smokefree Homes Programme by visiting website www.lancashiresmokefreehomes.co.uk.

This programme is run for the county council by the Maden Community and Children's Centre and aims to encourage people to keep their homes and cars completely smokefree.

County Councillor Ali added: "As well as damaging their own health, people's smoke affects those around them. Research has shown that when you breathe in other people's cigarette smoke, you're much more likely to suffer from life–threatening illnesses such as cancer and heart disease.

"Signing up to the Smokefree Homes Programme is a great way to protect the people you live with from the dangerous effects of second–hand smoke."

Winners with the Champion...

THE winners of the Champion's competition to win tickets to see a performance of Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat at Southport Theatre were Mr F. Cropper from Scarisbrick, Val Tregurtha from Southport, and Margaret Westaway of Crosby.

And the winner of our fabulous 'Great Docklife' giveaway for a family of four to enjoy a fantastic Albert Dock experience was Clive Pownceby of Great Crosby.

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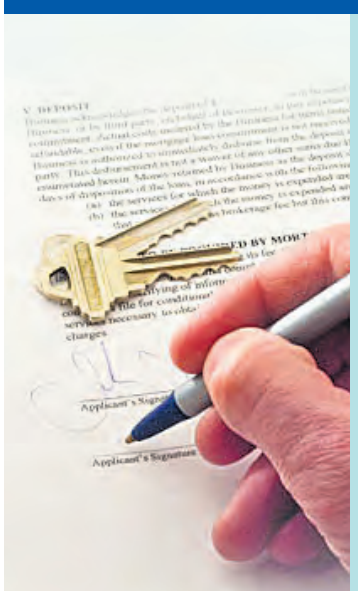

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1137175

Sefton should have done joint Local Plan with West Lancs claim Lydiate Parish Council

Report by **Jim Sharpe**

BACK to the drawing board!

That is Lydiate Parish Council's submission to the Government Planning Inspector examining Sefton's 'Local Plan'.

At its meeting last week, the Parish Council unanimously adopted a reply drafted by Councillor Tony Robertson.

In its conclusion, the report states: "Sefton's Local Plan needs to go back to the drawing board as it is inadequate, poorly conceived and is not consistent with sustainable development.

"We also fail to see that a case has been made by the borough council to breach its green belt and what case it does make seems to be based on population growth projections that have changed with just about every draft of their Local Plan."

Lydiate councillors claim the Local Plan process has been flawed and inappropriately conducted, a view they say is shared by local MP, Bill Esterson.

The submission claims that Sefton Council "has led the process very much from its Planning Department based in Bootle. It feels like an imposed plan rather than one arrived at through genuine community engagement."

Lydiate Parish Council is also concerned at what it sees as "a lack of genuine and effective cross–boundary working with West Lancashire Borough Council."

They add that: "It should have been a joint plan with West Lancashire Borough Council, as has happened in other parts of England."

The submission points out that Sefton has a large boundary with West Lancashire – far greater than it has with Liverpool or Knowsley councils and that Lydiate is "surrounded by West Lancashire on three sides with only its southern boundary connected to the rest of the borough of Sefton and indeed Merseyside."

It claims Lydiate's economic, housing, education, health, and social needs are as much, if not more, connected to those of neighbouring communities in West Lancashire as to those in Sefton/Merseyside.

"Sefton Council just does not grasp this and seems to adopt an inward looking Mersey–centric approach to the disadvantage of communities like Lydiate. This is not a sound approach to a Local Plan process."

Lydiate's submission also claims no firm case has been made for green belt breach or for building on the highest grades of agricultural land.

It submits that the situation has got worse if anything since its last submission with more sites once labelled 'reserve' now shown as development sites, including a development on high grade agricultural land.

And Lydiate's submission claims that the village does not have the scale of housing need shown in the Local Plan.

Overriding this, it says, is the "uniqueness of the high grade agricultural land surrounding our community."

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MP backs animal testing campaign

Report by
Danielle Thompson

Beagle puppies that the BUAV said were used for testing then killed at a few weeks old

WEST Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper is backing a campaign to reduce the use of animal testing.

Twin campaigns by the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection (BUAV), Britain's leading organisation campaigning to end animal experiments, call for lifting the secrecy surrounding the licensing of animal experiments and an end to the use of animal testing for household products such as washing–up liquid.

Both campaigns have been accepted in principle by the government, who promised last year to implement the changes before the General Election, but with time running out Ms Cooper has joined with 76 colleagues across all parties to support a motion calling for immediate action.

TRANSPARENCY

She said: "I have always been a strong advocate for the welfare of animals and have constantly and consistently worked to ensure animals are treated by UK and EU legal standards.

"I support a ban on testing household products on animals and welcome the government's commitment to implement this. However, it is often the ingredients rather than the final household products that are tested on animals and it is important that the government consider how best to resolve this.

"BUAV's campaign for greater transparency about animal testing is one I fully support, which is why I signed EDM 636."

BUAV chief executive, Michelle Thew, said: "We welcome Rosie Cooper's support for this motion. When a consensus on progress has finally been reached, it would be very frustrating if it failed to materialise due to government inaction in the last two months of this parliament.

"We hope that Rosie's backing will help secure these important steps in making a difference for animals in laboratories."

County to fly the flag for Commonwealth Day

KEVIN Ellard, chairman of Lancashire County Council, will raise the Commonwealth flag at County Hall on Monday, March 9 at 10am to mark the international celebration of Commonwealth Day. More than 650 flags will be raised in 38 Commonwealth countries.

Cllr. Ellard will read a message from the Queen, followed by a Commonwealth affirmation, before the flag is raised.

Leader of the council, County Councillor Jennifer Mein, will then give a response to the affirmation.

Cllr. Ellard said: "Like the Commonwealth, Lancashire is made up of different communities, so we're also taking a moment to celebrate the diversity of the various communities here in the county."

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1137251

Eyes down for church fundraiser

IT'S eyes down, look in for a fun fundraising event...

Congregation members at Ormskirk Parish Church are holding a bingo night on Friday (March 6) in aid of church funds.

Venue for the evening is New Church House, next door to St Peter and St Paul Church in Church Street.

Parishioner Mary Jones said: "Doors open at 7pm with eyes down at 7.30pm. Friends, neighbours, families and children, everyone in the local community is welcome to what should be a fun night, so just come along and join us."

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113878

Lectern fee shows Sefton is Big Brother

EVERYONE knows that Sefton Borough Council is short of cash at the moment, having been most unfairly clobbered by withdrawal of government funding.

It has been faced with unpopular but probably inevitable cuts in services – such as the closure of local libraries.

And I, like most people, appreciate it needs to save every penny it reasonably can.

But this week I was called upon to write a news story from Lydiate Parish Council which was proudly 'unveiling' a most attractive lectern in one of its parks.

The council had received a grant (not from Sefton) to buy this piece of outdoor furniture which gives a brief pictorial historical account of the village and an easy–to–follow map showing suggested walks and/or cycle rides visitors can follow.

The only problem is that it is, quite obviously, in the wrong place.

No casual visitor to the village would in the normal course of events, ever find it.

The one and only site for this lectern is on the village green, a natural crossroads adjacent not only to the principal bus stop but also directly in the path of any visitors making their way into Lydiate from the canal bank.

So why then is it not there?

Simple. The parish council made the mistake of asking Sefton if it would be OK to put it there – in the mistaken belief that this would naturally be a formality only. After all, last thing anybody knew, Lydiate is part of Sefton is it not?

But no. Local parish councillors were told they would have to apply for planning permission and obtain a licence (for what exactly I have no idea).

And this 'formality' would cost the equally cash–strapped little parish council £1,200.

Since little Lydiate does not have the odd thousand of pounds to spare, it had little choice but to adopt 'plan B' and put its lovingly created information board somewhere where only locals will ever be likely actually to see it.

I imagine the parish councillors are kicking themselves now.

They could simply have placed their lectern on the village green and said nothing.

And unless someone reported them for this gross deception, or some passing Sefton Council jobsworth noticed this abomination in their midst, I reckon all would have been well.

Mind you, had this happened I suppose the unhappy residents of Lydiate village would have been landed a hefty fine by Big Brother Sefton.

And with a big brother like that, who needs bullies?

Hang on a minute though.

Is this the same big brother who has been lashing out cash erecting poles at the end of just about every residential road – no matter how narrow, short or insignificant – near where I live?

I presume that eventually each of these additional pieces of road furniture (all the better for the partially sighted to walk into) will be 'crowned' by 20mph signs, which also presumably come at a considerable cost.

And in many, if not indeed most, of these roads I would defy any but the most committed dangerous driver much to exceed 20mph anyway – and if they did, who would, and by what means, catch them doing it?

Bah, humbug springs to mind.

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West Lancs MP backs 'Save Our £160million Campaign'

WEST Lancs MP Rosie Cooper was one of 60 MPs who helped to put pressure on the government to defer a law change which could have let rogue company directors walk away with creditors' money.

The 'Save Our £160million Campaign' was led by seven business bodies, including the insolvency trade R3 and the Federation of Small Businesses, to challenge the change due to come into force next month.

This would have meant that from April insolvency practitioners would no longer have been able to use 'no win, no fee' arrangements to pursue court action against directors of failed businesses on behalf of creditors. According to R3, this would have allowed many directors guilty of fraud or negligence to walk away scot–free.

The situation is due to to be reviewed later in the year.

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1137441

Heritage group's search for taste of past

Aerial view of Lavery's Elkes and Fox's Factory in Burscough Code NA

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

MEMBERS of a heritage group are hoping to really get a taste of the past at their next monthly gathering.

The Burscough Heritage Group are appealing for vintage recipes for traditional Burscough cakes to enable them to bake some ahead of the meeting on Monday, March 9.

The meeting, at the Blue Mallard on Burscough Wharf, will feature a talk entitled 'Bygone Baking in Burscough' focusing on the village's former baking factories, Lavery's, Outram's and Elkes & Fox.

Heritage group spoksman, Colin Wareing, said: "Between 1914 and the 1960s there were a number of cake and biscuit baking firms in Burscough, the main ones being Outram's Southport Cakes and I H Lavery & Co Ltd. which became Elkes and Fox.

"At the height of production more than 2,000 people were employed across the factory sites, the majority being women, with a lot arriving daily from places such as Wigan and Skelmersdale.

Memories

"The Burscough Heritage group are inviting anyone with memories and artefacts from the bakeries to come and share them at the Blue Mallard on Burscough Wharf on Monday (March 9) from 7pm.

"The idea behind the evening is a 'show and tell' night with some displays of old photographs and if anyone has any old biscuit tins from the time that would be great.

"If anyone has any recipes for 'slab cake' or any of the other products that were produced in Burscough we would love them to get could get in touch before the night and staff at the Blue Mallard will have a go at baking the cake."

Anyone who has a recipe for slab cake or any other traditional Burscough cake recipe, or requiring more information, is asked to ring Colin on 07931 356204 or e–mail burscoughvch@yahoo.co.uk.

All are welcome to attend the meeting for a £2 donation.

Winners with the Champion...

WINNERS of the Champion competition to win tickets to see Dead Simple at the Manchester Opera House were David Heslegrave from Birkdale, who also won a Peter James book, Caroline Carver from Burscough and Iain Connor from Freshfield.

Sooty's Plants have Been Busy!

Well, well, well, if you love beautiful plants and perfect gardens, you are in for a real treat with Sooty's Plants now that it has been extensively renovated just in time for Spring.

Sooty's Plants has been a perennial local favourite for green fingers enthusiasts but they are now poised to be even more popular by offering improved facilities and a brand new look.

Sooty's Plants has always believed in great service and so the company has made it happen that you can now shop seven days a week for the ultimate shopping experience.

Established 20 years ago in Tarleton, Sooty's Plants established itself some time ago as the one place where you can find absolutely everything for the most demanding of gardeners. From shrubs to climbing plants, from trees to eye catching bedding plants, there is something for every garden and every budget at Sooty's Plants. That has never changed and today, Sooty's Plants range is more extensive than before.

This winter, the current owners decided to refurbish Sooty's Plants and have, amongst many other improvements, built plenty of covered areas so you can browse at your leisure, whether it is cracking the flags or raining cats and dogs! The car park area has been substantially increased providing ample space for shoppers and the whole layout of the centre has been rejuvenated to the high standard you can expect from Sooty's Plants.

Sooty's Plants is a local business, proud to stand on its own two feet and grows the majority of its stock, meaning that the plant you buy will thrive in a climate it is used to. They offer amazingly competitive prices for top quality and expert help is always on hand if you need advice. Looking for something unusual, unsure of what will grow well or not? Just ask. Sooty's Plants cares about its customers and has built a second to none reputation through a dedicated team of experts in their field who will make sure you go with the best plants for your needs and budgets. They love giving the right advice because they know that a happy customer comes back time and again.

And the future does look bright as Sooty's Plants are finalising plans for a cafe and toilets to be built this summer. So you will be bale to make a visit last a lot longer when the sun comes out again.

All in all, with its great add on range of ceramic pots and garden ornaments, gorgeous planters and superb hanging baskets, Sooty's Plants are confident that you will love their new look and the team can't wait to see you. Such is their enthusiasm that you will get your garden in tip top condition at a price that's right for you and in record time.

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Miracles do happen!
Wishing Mandy and the team continued success on their expansion programme.

Health professionals support eating disorder campaign

HEALTH professionals in the borough have been taking part in a national campaign aimed at raising awareness and understanding of eating disorders and challenging stereotypes and stigma.

Members of West Lancashire's Eating Disorder Service supported national Eating Disorder Awareness Week (February 23–March 1) led by the charity B–eat which provides advice and help for people affected by eating disorders or who have difficulties with food, shape or weight.

Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's Eating Disorder Service provides support to people across the area who require assistance with a variety of eating disorders.

The service focuses on adults (16–year–old and upwards) with severe eating disorders. The team provide supported eating, a wide range of psychological therapies, nursing support and management of physical health issues associated with eating disorders.

Dr Karen Seal, a psychologist with the Eating Disorder Service at the trust was recently announced as a runner–up in Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg's Mental Health Hero Awards.

She was nominated by service–users for her work supporting people affected by eating disorders.

Dr Seal said: "It was a privilege to receive the nomination and it means so much that it came from service users, they really are at the heart of our practice. I was presented the award by Mr Clegg at a ceremony in Whitehall and it was a brilliant day.

"Unfortunately there is still stigma associated with mental health difficulties and we all have a part to play in reducing that. Eating Disorders Awareness Week encourages conversations about eating difficulties which can only be a good thing in this process.

"Anyone can be affected by an eating disorder. Our services use innovative thinking to provide the very best care to people who need our support."

Karen receives her award from Nick Clegg

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Report calls for a 'fairer' Lancashire

A REPORT which offers advice that could make the county a 'fairer' place for all communities has been released this week.

The Lancashire Fairness Commission's report, 'Fairer Lancashire, Fairer Lives', released on Tuesday (March 3) calls on public, private and voluntary organisations to make changes to the services they provide to ensure everyone has a fair chance in life in terms of their prosperity, health and wellbeing.

Since its launch in July 2014, the commission has been giving residents the opportunity to say whether they feel they and their families are given fair opportunities to start well, live well and age well and what changes they would like to see.

This information has been used to see how communities are being affected by austerity and the challenges of living in the current economic climate.

The commission's report is made up of three sections – starting well, living well and ageing well.

Starting well covers issues relating to children, young people and their families. Lliving well focuses on issues relevant to adults, such as finance, housing and employment. And ageing well covers issues relating to older people.

The Lancashire Fairness Commission was established in March last year following a feasibility study carried out by Lancashire County Council's cabinet.

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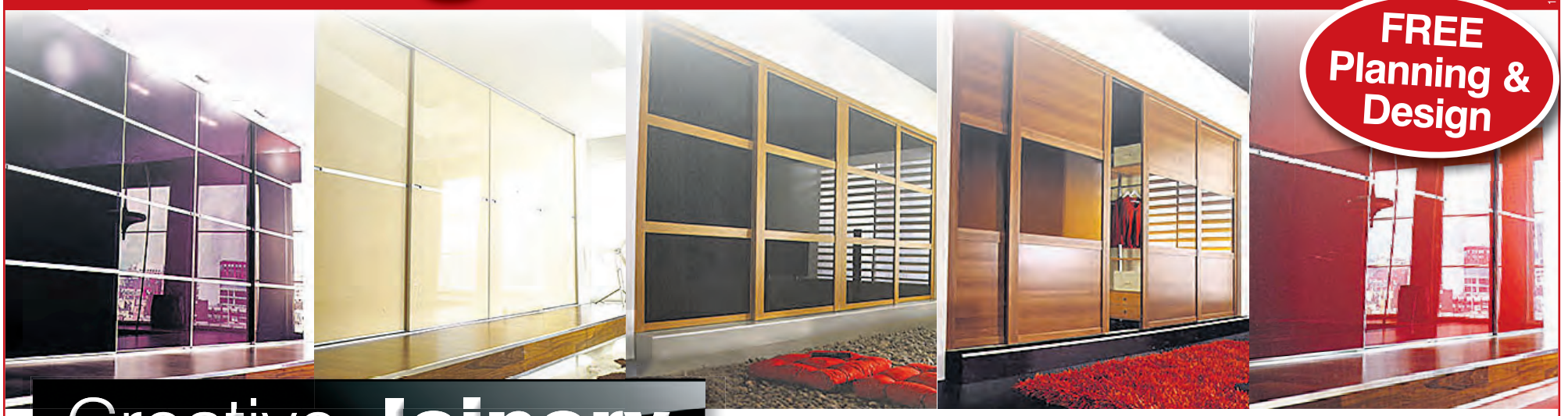
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Almost wordless play coming to Arts Centre

SO It Goes, the almost wordless, 'extraordinary' (The Times) debut show from bold visual theatre company On The Run visits The Arts Centre at Edge Hill University in Ormskirk on Tuesday, March 10.

So It Goes is devised and performed by Hannah Moss and David Ralfe.

In August 2012, Hannah told David that she wanted to make a show about her Dad, who died when she was 17.

Hannah has always wanted to talk about her Dad, but in the seven years since he died, she hasn't quite managed it.

So It Goes sees David help Hannah on her journey through memory, laughter and sorrow, in order to finally come to terms with her loss.

Following a critically acclaimed Edinburgh Festival Fringe run in 2014, So It Goes visits Ormskirk as part of a UK tour ahead of extensive London dates.

Hannah said: "I was with David at the Edinburgh Festival in 2012, six years after my Dad died, when I had the idea for So It Goes. I was inspired by the shows that didn't rely on spoken language, and I started to try and talk about my dad and my experience through writing on a whiteboard. Talking about my dad had been hard until then, but I felt freed by the whiteboard and it became the central part of the show, symbolising a universal theme: how difficult it is to talk about grief."

On The Run seek to make bold, visual theatre which is comic, touching and truthful. David trained at the prestigious Jacques Lecoq school and has worked extensively with Hoipolloi.

The show is brought to the stage by Show And Tell, an award–winning production company supporting a host of comedians and theatre–makers including Tony Law, Josie Long, Tortoise in a Nutshell, Simon Munnery, Kieran Hurley, Gary McNair, Andrew Maxwell and more.

The cast of So It Goes **Code NA**

Still time to see Educating Rita

THERE is still time to see a major revival of Willy Russell's Educating Rita which opened the Playhouse's 2015 Spring Season.

The production, directed by Everyman & Playhouse artistic director Gemma Bodinetz, marks the play's 35th anniversary.

Rita is played by Leanne Best who can be seen in Fortitude (Sky Atlantic), the forthcoming The Outcast (BBC) and Home Fires (ITV) and Frank is played by Con O'Neill who stars in Channel 4's Cucumber and Banana and BBC's Uncle.

The production runs at the Williamson Square venue until this Saturday (March 7).

This version of Educating Rita is the first to be staged professionally in Liverpool for 13 years. Willy Russell is one of the world's most successful playwrights and Educating Rita stands as one of his most iconic creations. His work has attracted huge and appreciative audiences all over the world and his plays and musicals have won countless awards.

Leanne Best returns to her home city to play the title role after more than a decade of successes on stage with the Everyman & Playhouse in productions including The Match Box, The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui and Unprotected as well as A Streetcar Named Desire and The Hypochondriac, both directed by Gemma Bodinetz.

On screen Leanne can currently be seen in Ripper Street (Amazon Prime) and Woman in Black: Angel of Death (Hammer Films).

Frank is played by former Everyman Youth Theatre member Con O'Neill. Con has an illustrious association with Willy Russell's work, winning an Olivier Award and Tony nomination for Blood Brothers, he starred in Dancin' Thru the Dark, the film adaptation of Russell's Stags and Hens and recently appeared in One For The Road at Northampton Royal & Derngate.

Con last appeared on stage in Liverpool at the Everyman in Dead Heavy Fantastic and he is well–known for Telstar (New Ambassadors Theatre & Aspiration Films), The Ladykillers (The Vaudeville) and A View From The Bridge (Royal Exchange Theatre).

Artistic director Gemma Bodinetz said: "Educating Rita is rightly acknowledged to be one of the great plays of the 20th century. To be directing it in its home city with such a remarkable cast, both of whom began their careers here, is an honour and a joy."

Willy Russell said: "I'm really delighted to be back at the Playhouse, a theatre with which I've had such a long and fulfilling association. I'm equally delighted to be working with Gemma Bodinetz and the great cast she has assembled – both Leanne Best and Con O'Neill are superb actors and it's a real pleasure to have them perform the play here in Liverpool where both their (and my) careers began."

Leanne Best and Con O'Neill in Educating Rita at the Liverpool Playhouse (c) Stephen Vaughan **Code NA**

Emma to return to town's theatre in new stage play

Report by **Henry James**

EMMA Dears, who was seen at Southport Theatre in her production Judy and Liza, is returning to the venue to star in a new stage play version of Helen Forrester's hit musical Twopence To Cross The Mersey.

The actress, who used to live in Formby, is playing mother in the show which will visit Southport Theatre from April 9 to 11.

Helen Forrester's Twopence to Cross the Mersey looks at the true story of a young girl and her family who lose their wealth during the 1930s Great Depression. They had been used to a middle–class life in the South West of England with nannies and servants, but they have to leave that. They move to Liverpool and start again, however they have a shock in store for them.

Emma gave an insight into what audiences can expect: "I don't know if people had seen the show in the past when it was a musical. This version is very true to the book and you don't have to suspend your belief. It is humorous and entertaining as well.

"Part of the appeal of this tour is that I used to live in Formby and all the theatres on this tour mean something to me. I am really pleased to be doing this tour."

The 41–year–old spoke about her character in the production which opens with a three–week run at the Epstein Theatre in Liverpool (March 10 to 28).

"I play Helen's mother," Emma told The Champion. "She is not the nicest of people. She has come from a wealthy background and she has been plunged into having nothing. She is a bit depressed and her mental health is not that great."

Emma performed her show Judy and Liza, a musical biopic of the lives of Judy Garland and Liza Minnelli, at Southport Theatre on Mother's Day in 2011. She played Liza in the show which took her six months to write. She describes the production, which toured the UK, as a "labour of love."

Acting has been a part of Emma's life since she played Annie in the touring production of the musical when she was nine–years old. She said: "I have never wanted to do anything else, but acting since then."

In its earlier format, the musical version of Twopence to Cross the Mersey had four hugely successful runs at Liverpool's Empire Theatre, firstly in 2004 and then returning in 2005, 2007 and 2009.

henry.james@champnews.com

Emma Dears **Code NA**

Chance to see Ayckbourn's thriller

SOUTHPORT'S Too Friendly Theatre Company's next production opens this week.

Alan Ayckbourn's Snake in the Grass tells the tale of two sisters, reunited after years apart. However, far from being the happy family reunion one might expect, things take a murkier twist as old resentments resurface and hidden secrets are revealed in the darkness.

Annabel Chester returns to the family home following the death of her father. Once there, she is confronted by the sister she has not seen in years, who is not as she was. Miriam has never left home and is now happy to have her big sister back. Or is she? The play is a thriller; it is humorous. It may also be a ghost story, though it would be wrong to give anything away.

The show will be staged at The Little Theatre in Southport from March 5–7. Tickets are on sale from the Box Office or on 01704 808951.

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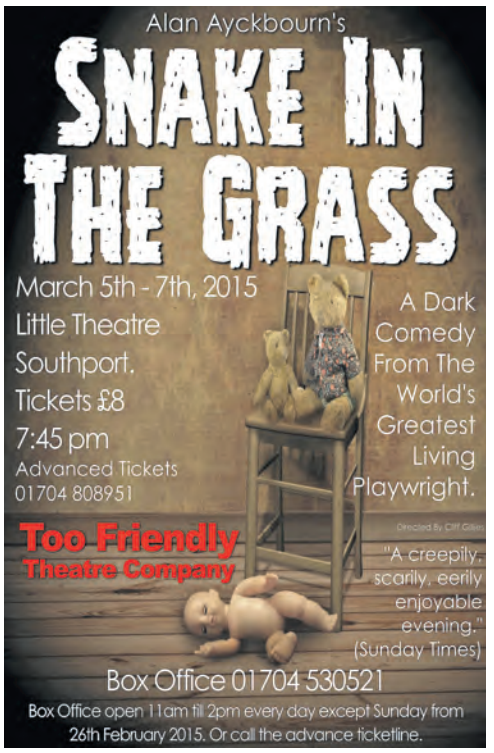
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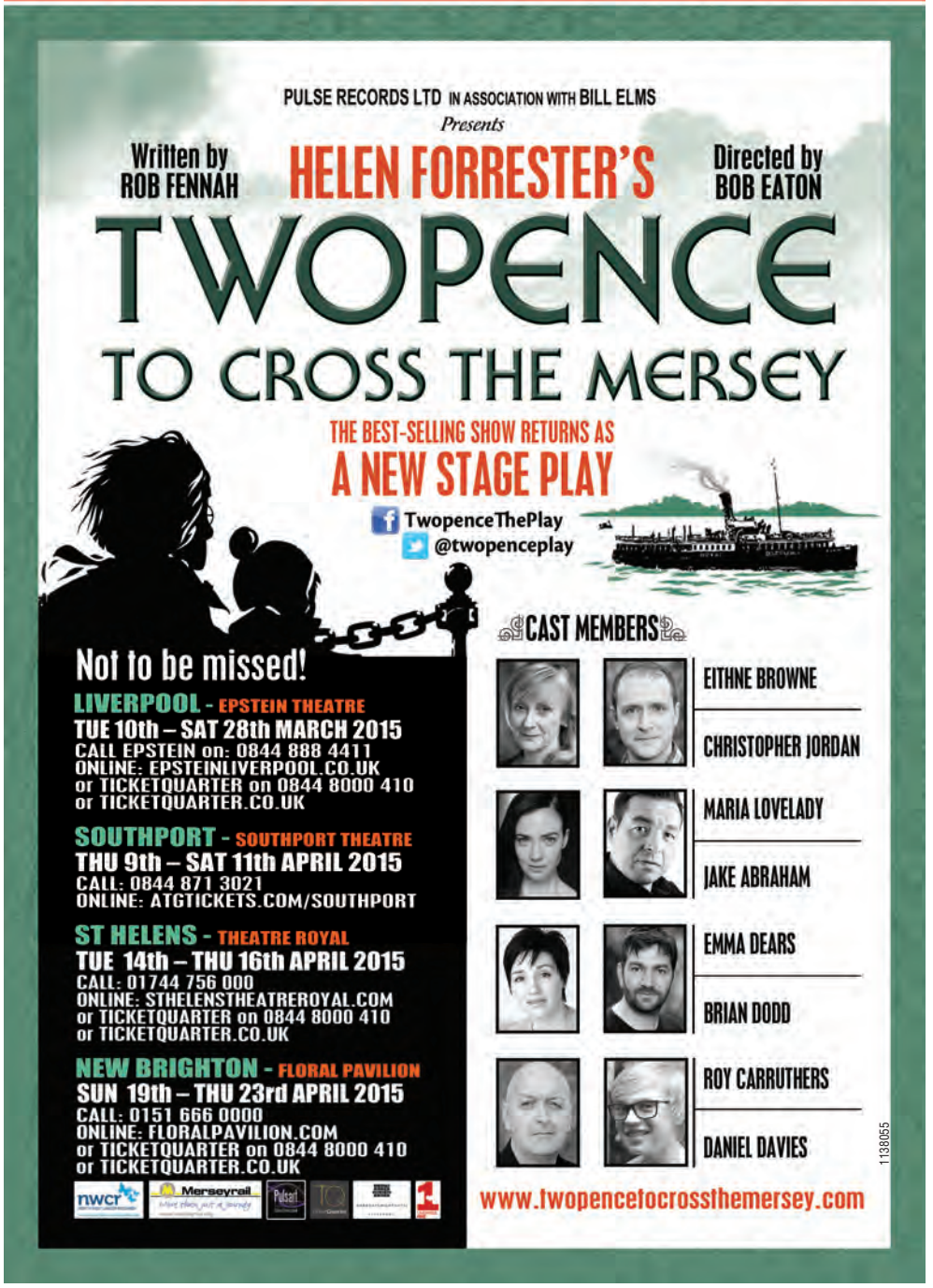

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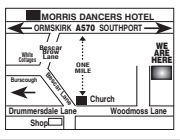

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MOTHER AND BABY

BED COT Lovely Mamas and Papas pine bed cot for sale. £30 07905626066

BT BABY MONITOR BT Baby Monitor 100 also includes many great features such as; Digital DECT technology with Hi–Def sound. Rubber key zones on both units. Mains or battery powered. Rechargeable batteries in parent unit. Portable parent unit. Interchangeable power adapters (x2). Sound level indicator LED array. Parent talk back. Mute function on parent unit. Nightlight with adjustable brightness. Illuminated key zone on baby unit. Multiple Polyphonic lullabies. Fully adjustable volume and sensitivity. Range up to 300m outdoors & 50m indoors(+). Travel bag. Belt clip. Out–of–range warning. Battery low indicator. As good as new. £30 o.n.o. 07815769264

CHILDS CAR SEAT kiddiecare Childs Car Seat, 1–3yrs, Only used by Grandparents, Lovely Condition. £10.00 0151 526 9326

GRACO TRAVEL COT In very good condition. Scarisbrick area. Also comes with changing tray to put on top of travel cot £25 o.n.o. 01704 889366

GRO–EGG ROOM THERMOMETER Easy–to–use room thermometer that changes colour to indicate temperatureReminds you at a glance to adapt the baby's bedding or room environmentProvides a soft nightlight glow to keep your baby calm during the nightDigital, permanently back–lit LCD screen makes it easy to check quicklyRoom thermometer is mains–operated, so no batteries are required.In perfect condition £10 0781576964

MAXI–COSI FOOTMUFF Cotton lined and padded. Pull–tie hood to minimise draughts and easy access button opening to get your baby in and out easily. Machine washable. £20 o.n.o. 07815769264

NEW MOTHERCARE Joie Nitro stroller. New and unused £40.00 0151 520 1892

NEXT NURSERY HOMEWARE NEXT Hetty & Henry unisex nursery items. Narrow width Curtains (139cm drop) with ties (all washed), curtain pole with character ends, lampshade & 3 art blocks. Current equivalent would cost £85. Like new. (photos available via email) £25 o.n.o. 07815769264

NURSERY FURNITURE Mama and Papa's 'Murano' nursery furniture. Matching Cot/bed (with mattress), dresser/changer and wardrobe. All in excellent condition as have been extremely well looked after. Assembly instructions for all items included £275 o.n.o. 07815769264

BIKES

MBK MENS BIKE 21' frame, red, good condition also a Raleigh Pioneer mans bike, straight handlebars £60.00 ono £60.00 ono 01704 884564

CASIO KEYBOARD 61 keys. Boxed. Bought from Rimmers. Hardly used. Excellent condition £50 o.n.o. 07794178330

LADIES SHOPPER CYCLE New condition. Offers over £50 01704 226141/07531008811

MOUNTAIN BIKES ladies and boys/mens bikes each £35, good condition £35 01704831977

WANTED LADIES BIKE Wanted ladies lightweight bike to suit older lady. £negotiable 0754 625 4448

WANTED, STAG FURNITURE Wanted, chest of drawers, dressing table, 2 matching bedside tables, and bureau, Stag or similar please, not flat pack. I need a full houseful of furniture £negotiable 0754 625 4448

CLOTHING

WEDDING DRESS size 12–14. Pale pink. Beaded love heart neck line. £50 Communion Dress white. Size 4 (age 8 or 9) £15 onoProm dress in pink. Size 12–14 never worn. £15 o.n.o. 07545450789

3 PLASTIC SUIT BAGS 3 plastic suit/ clothes bags to protect clothes in wardrobe. Full zip just add hanger. £5.00 07545873943

BABY GIRLS CLOTHES 9–12months. Jackets, casual outfits, shorts, trousers, brand new pair of shoes and once worn pair of shoes. Includes Next, Marks & Spencer and Lilly & Sid. Very good condition. From a non smoking home. £15 07815769264

BERGHAUS COAT New Never Worn ALL WEATHER COAT, with fleece, size s for a 15 yr old, approx, call for details. £50 07986 135 173

BLACK LEATHER COAT Ladies. 36in long, size 12–14, Peter Pan collar, single buttons, hardly worn £15 o.n.o. 01704 231971

BOYS NEW CLOTHING Peter Storm Duck + Dodge age 5–6 Combat pants T–shirts & jkt £29 07806727402

COAST FROM DEBENHAMS Ladies 2 piece coast suit. Light burgundy jacket size 14. Short sleeve 2 buttons small collar. Skirt size 12 burgundy and cream with belt. Lenghth 261/2ins. Bought from Debenhams for a summer wedding. No texts please £40.00 07545873943

FOOTBALL SHIRTS england umbro shirt red x1, white x1 lge, official products, 15.00 each, england hurst no10 admiral shirt red lge 15.00, england 1966 world cup champions t.shirt rde med 5.00 £as priced o.n.o. 07790791733

FRANK USHER VINTAGE SUIT. Stunning mother of the bride FRANK USHER SUIT. Long jacket 31ins shoulder to hem. Lots of beaded detail. Electric Blue colour. Skirt 26ins long with side zip. This is vintage from the 70, s. Professionally cleaned. No texts £75.00 07545873943

GIRLS DENIM JACKET brand new age 11–14 from New Look May deliver £8 o.n.o. 01515263851

GIRLS SKIWEAR TROUSERS Turquoise/purple. Black/pink. Waterproof. Windproof. Taped seams. Storm cuffs. Never worn. AGE 10/11 £ 5.00. AGE 11/12 £7.50 01704 231971

LADIES CASUAL/SKI jacket size medium worn once as new May deliver £10 o.n.o. 01515263851

LADIES JACKET SIZE 12 wool mixture with attachable hood dark green excellent quality and condition from Top Shop May deliver £10 o.n.o. 01515263851

LADIES JACKET SIZE 14 brown zip at front machine washable excellent condition from Next May deliver £10 01515263851

LADIES RAINCOAT SIZE 10–12 with belt excellent quality and condition from John Lewis May deliver £10 01515263851

MENS QUILTED JACKET NEXT Khaki green quilted jacket. Waist length. Size Medium. Chest and hip pockets. Good condition. Photo available on request £15 o.n.o. 07815769264

NEW TOP HAT Blk felt silk lined hat sz sml med cost £50 £20 07806727402

PAVERS LEATHER BOOTS Ladies boxed new sz 4.5 low heel knee length tan Lthr cost £110 £50 07806727402

WEDDING DRESS Sophia Tolli size 8/10 wedding dress Gillian design Excellent condition, dry cleaned £350 o.n.o. 07792370438

COMPUTING

ADVENT PERSONAL COMPUTER tower processor – windows XP installed, flat screen monitor, keyboard, speakers, mouse etc. £50 o.n.o. 01695424797

COMPUTING

BELKIN TUNE CAST II FM transmitter with user manual. Cost £ 20. Now £8.00 01704 231971

DELL MIN10 NOTEBOOK full working order, Small and very compact, Windows 7 genuine license, MS Office and anti–virus, 160gb HD, 1gb ram. £75 01704831977

DELL OPTIPLEX COMPUTER fast Core2Duo 2.53Ghz, 160GB HD, 2GB Ram, DVD–RW drive, Genuine Windows Vista license, anti–virus and Office 2003, 20" LCD monitor, keyboard and mouse, full working order and excellent condition. £105 01704831977

DESK/TABLE for computer(from John Lewis). Silver metal frame, glass top. Excellent condition, 30'D 26'W 29'H £20 01704226712

EPSOM SCANNER /PRINTER Epsom scanner/ printer SX215. Needs new inks.no texts £20.00 07545873943

GOLD APPLE HEADPHONES The best sound you've ever heard comes from Apple headphones, so why not get a GOLD pair, work perfectly. Condition– NEW in box £15 07443410003

IPHONE 4S UNLOCKED Black 16GB in immaculate near mint condition, no scratches on screen or back, full working order. Charger, USB lead and original box. £165 01704831977

IPHONE 5C CASE black iPhone 5c case with holes on the back, protects the iPhone perfectly. untouched, perfect condition. £15 07443410003

IPHONE5/C/S MINION CASE Minion iPhone 5, 5c and 5s case. 3D silicone, smiley 2 eyes minion. make a minion happy, adopt him today. He's waiting for you!!! £10 07443410003

MAXTOR EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE with adapter, USB cable and information booklet, wiped clean for immediate use, excellent condition. £25 o.n.o. 01695424797

NINTENDO DSIXL BLUE Original Nintedno DSIXL midnight blue, biult in camera, web browser, game, app store, voice recorder and more. condition is perfect. no problems at all, worth £100 £60 07443410003

NOKIA MOBILE PHONE X3.02 touch screen, boxed, charger, manual. Good condition. £40 o.n.o. 0151 928 0471

SONY CMT–CP101 Compact HiFi component system, with upgraded HiFi speakers, remote, full working order and as new condition £50 01704831977

WOOD COMPUTER DESK 28in wide 17in depth. Plus pull out tray. Side shelf 17in long 11in wide. £35. Computer chair, large. £30 01695 576223

DIY

PINE DOORS x Two 28x75 inches.£30 ono. Louvre doors 2 x 24x27 inches and 1 @ 24x66 inches. All 3 £25.00 01695 422675

1/2 ROUTER, NEW silverline 1/2 router, new, unused, boxed with full instructions cost over £50, in southport. £26 07809 255966

BANDSAW Kity model 613. Very clean condition. £150 0151 527 2392

BLACK&DECKER DRILL Used in working order and good condition, other tools also for sale £10 01704831977

DIY MAGAZINES complete set 1–98 of the knack diy project magazine, good condition £30.00 o.n.o. 07790791733

EXTENDING ALUMINIUM LADDERS Lyte super d ladders. Extends to 6 meters. Length 3.5 meters. £40.00 01515201857

EXTERNAL DOOR SOLID mahogany mortice tenon. Double glazed gold lead effect oval panel. Hinges. 76.3/4in x 32.3/4in. VGC. Cost £300, sell £25 0151 531 9604

DIY

STEP LADDER Brand new aluminium ladder, 4 rung with platform £10 01704 876855

WALL CUPBOARDS 2 wall cupboards one W1000 D300 H720 and second W600 D300 and H720. Cream doors with wood handles and trim £25 01695 423252/ 07976 131914

WALLPAPER STRIPPER Powerful 2000 watt wallpaper steamer. Remove stubborn wallpaper easily with this excellent machine.Nearly new with only one time use. £20.00 01704 546978

WANTED Small metal lathe. Any condition. Please call after 5pm. £0 0151 527 2392

HOUSE AND HOME

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DRYER, FRIDGE, FREEZER Under counter separate fridge £40, freezer £20 and dryer £40. 1 year old. £ 07585 155155

3 SEATER AND 2 SEATER black leather sofas. Very good condition. £200 07887886355

HOUSE AND HOME

JOHN LEWIS SUITE New with labels, slate grey fabric sofa and 2 chairs. Cost £1500 £650 o.n.o. 07921 908739

EDWARDIAN MAHOGANY antique cabinet on legs small size £200.00 01704 884564

PANASONIC television 32 inches, excellent condition. £100.00 01695 572830

2.3FTX6FT SINGLE MATTRESSES 2 washable single mattresses vgc, £15 each or £22 for the 2 call 07564219150 £15 each 07564219150

4 FARMHOUSE CHAIRS 4 Very Sturdy Farmhouse Chairs in Oak (2 Antique/2 ReproductionGood Condition £125 o.n.o. 0151 924 2727

BAR STOOL black leather with round chrome base. £10.00 0151 924 6393

BAR STOOLS two silver coloured seats with chrome base, good condition with backs £15.00 0151 924 6393

BATHROOM SHELF glass and stainless steel. Still in box. £8 0151 526 0634

BEDDING BOX Antique pine bedding box. £50 01695 423252/ 07976 131914

BEECH HEADBOARD four slates going across good clean condition £10 01704576761

BEVAN FUNNELL TABLE Side Table in OakCould be used forTV. Centre Drawer and Lower Shelf. Lovely Grain £40 0151 924 2727

BLACK LEATHER SETTEE three seater, low back Chesterfield style, very modern and stylish. In nice condition no damage or tears, chrome legs, Maghull area, deliver possible. £55 o.n.o. 07903 383535

BLISS LIGHT YEAR Can deliver locally. £ 30.00.Excellent value. Antique Edwardian Cabinet on legs. Usual size. £200.00 01704 884564

BOSCH DISHWASHER Classixx Slimline white. In full working order and as new condition. £150 o.n.o. 0151 547 2654

CARPET 1 carpet, red, brand new, 58 long 39 wide. £15. 1 carpet, red, white and black, 66 long 47 wide. £15 07907 597044

CENTRE LIGHT FITTING Opaque Glass centre light fitting with three chrome spot lights which take GU10. Sits close to ceiling, as new, Originally from Ring Lighting. Suitable for bedroom, lounge, kitchen. Bargain £15.00 0151 520 2319

CHAIR AND STOOL. Very comfy lounge chair with large matching footstool. Soft fabric, terracotta patterned. Beech wood legs. Good quality. £40.00 o.n.o. 07976556270

CHANTILLY TALL SIDEBOARD By SAKOL; dark cherry; 2 drawers (1 cutlery) and 2 shelved cupboards; W=36', H=41', D=20'; Excellent condition. MRP= £899. £200 o.n.o. 01704 260612

CHILD HIGH SLEEPER bed with mattress underneath desk and chair £70.00 01704 576856

CHROME STANDARD Lamp very solid and good condition £20.00 0151 924 6393

COFFEE TABLE. Ornate, heavy metal table with thick, shaped glass top. Unusual. VGC. £65.00 o.n.o. 07976556270

CONSERVATORY PATIOTROLLEY GHLee large plastic garden/patio trolley on wheels cost £100 like brand new no texts £25 07806727402

CURTAINS 2 PAIRS Two beautiful pairs of duck egg blue curtains for huge windows. One pair each 52' wide other pair each 130'wide. Both 104' long. Dunelm mill. Cost over £500 new.£40 small, £100 large.No offers.suit bay window. £140 01704547467

DELONGHI GAS HEATER Model 634R; Blue Flame Gas Heater; needs butane gas bottle; manual incl. £20 01704 260612

HOUSE AND HOME

DIMPLEX ELECTRIC TOWEL RAIL wall mounted, cream, ladder style. Model BR500, 60cm wide x 100 high, original cost £250, excellent condition. £80 o.n.o. 01695424797

DINING TABLE Four sweater dining table with four choc faux leather chairs strip of glass down middle exc cond £50 01695. 558743

ELECTRIC FIRE with coals, lights up, W:16'x11'xD10'. £25.00 ono. Wanted 3 wheel ladies bike in good condition £0 0151 284 1509

ERCOL REFECTORY TABLE in very good condition – elm with lovely grain 5' x 2' 6 must be seen £125 o.n.o. 0151 924 2727

EXTERNAL MAIL BOX Good condition with keys £12 01704509913

GEORGE FOREMAN MEAN fat grilling machine £ 30.Berry Magicoal Radiator. Free Standing. Cream 22' x 17' £25.00 01695 322394

GOLD BATH MIXER TAPS excellent quality and condition gold bath mixer taps. £15 01695424797

GOLD TWO SEATER SOFA Comfortable two seater rich gold sofa. D84cm/2ft9', H86cm/2ft10', L1m43cm/4ft8'. One seat has support board otherwise good condition.Buyer collects. £30 o.n.o. 01695573147

GOOD CONDITION STRONG easy chair and matching recliner. Very expensive when new. Needs to be seen. Price is for both. Buyer takes away. £50.00 07851192684

HEADBOARD FOR SINGLE bed material shell shaped May deliver £7 o.n.o. 01515263851

HEADBOARDS Matching modern silver grey metal for 3' and 4' beds, approx. 1 year old £40 for both 01704 535651

INFIGURO MATTRESS KING Excellent condition buyer collects. £50 o.n.o. 01695 574737

JACQUES VERT jacket dress, size 14, Turquoise, M. O. B. Races. VGC. Worn Once. First to see will buy. Elegant. £50 01704 809300

LARGE three piece Pendragon leather suite and foot stool. Mint colour. Good Condition. £500 o.n.o. 0151 924 8161

LARGE MAHOGANY OVAL Table with six matching chairs as new condition. Call evenings only. £175.00 01704 576121

LEATHER SOFAS 2X3 str dark brown leather sofas from furniture village hardly used cost new £1.400 sell for £450 £450 01704 571642

LG REFRIGERATOR FREEZER with crushed ice water and ice dispenser. Black. Excellent condition. 3 years old. Must be able to pick up only. £400 o.n.o. 0151 527 2229

LOUNGE SUITE 3–2–1 lounge suite in brown velour type fabric £80 01695 423252/ 07976 131914

M & S LEATHER 2 SEATER Brown leather, large 2 seater. Cost £1500. Good condition. £190 o.n.o. 01695 579530

MAHOGANY HALF TABLE. Half moon table with ornate carved detail. Good, sturdy condition. £160.00 o.n.o. 07976556270

MARBLE FIREPLACE mantle back hearth 48in, brand new, cream marble. Can deliver and also fit. £? 07939 220539

MARCHER PRESSURE WASHER Brand new in boxKarcher with all acc. Never used £50 01695. 558743

MOTHERCARE PINE COT and mattress, beautiful condition, used twice. Size 60 x 120cm. £50 o.n.o. 01695 721650

NEST OF TABLES Teak. Rectangular table on castors. 4 small circular tables £40.00 01695 322394

OAK SIDEBOARD Traditional style oak sideboard with 2 drawers and 2 doors. £60 01695 423252/ 07976 131914

PINE KITCHEN TABLE and four chairs £20.00 0151 924 7929

HOUSE AND HOME

OAK SIDEBOARD/TV UNIT lovely solid piece of furniture in light oak, 2 shelves and 2 cupboards, must be seen. Cost £400 when new. Maghull area, delivery possible. Email for photo mikezeehandyman@gmail.com £55 o.n.o. 07903 383535

RECLINER CHAIR UPHOLSTERED Beige/floral. Good condition £ 100.00 O. N. O Drop leaf Oval table wooden pedestal type. Seats 6–8. Good condition. £40.00 01704 226148

SAMSUNG LCD TV/MONITOR Syncmaster711mp; adjustable stand; 4 inputs. £25 01704 260612

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC Mattress 6ft Super king excellent condition very clean cost over £450.00 new £50.00 o.n.o. 0151 924 6393

SINGER SEWING MACHINE Old type in its own table. Various feet. £50. Glass console table £20. Two self assembly saddle back chairs £20 07742 134944

SINGLE BEDS X2 modern metal bedframes, stylish wooden headboards, mattresses (hardly used) £75 each 01704 260612

SOLID PINE TABLE £25.00. Stevenson 3 seater removable, washable covers cost approx £ 2000.£150.00.Top maker solid pine single wardrobe, very good condition. £85.00 07594604523

STEAM CLEANER little yellow steam cleaner ex condition used once only £24.00 01695728292

STEAM CLEANER Small hand held Vac steam cleaner used once £10 o.n.o. 01695 420950 aughton

STEAMER meyer 3 tier stainless steel multi–steamer £15.00 o.n.o. 07790791733

STORAGE UNIT/ DRINKS CABINET, black gloss finish, one shelf, 41'W 16'D 31'H. Good condition. WAS £300, ACCEPT £50 01704226712

STYLISH BLACK HEADBOARD Black with delicate wrought iron styling; Double bed size (54') £55 01704 260612

SWIVEL/ROCKER cane chair, seat and back cushions.very comfy. Suit conservatory. VGC. Birkdale £40 o.n.o. 01704 564482

TABLE AND CHAIRS Pine coloured table and 4 chairs 2' 6' x 4' 6' excellent condition. £45 01704 560818

TAPLEY FURNITURE WALL UNITS Set of drawers, Record Cabinet and a Bookcase. All very good condition £25 o.n.o. 01704871387

THREE SEATER SETTEE plus reclineing armchair Gplan royal blue material vgc cost £1800 from stokers bargian for qiuck sale collection only £150.00 07914784547

TOILET Tabor back to wall brand new toilet still in box. This takes the square type toilet seat. No cistern included £20 o.n.o. 01695 420950 aughton

TRIPLE. ALIMINIUM LADDERS Set of triple ladders new condition alimimum £100.00 01695. 558743

TWO LARGE PIECES of marble. VGC. Of the best quality. Heavy. Ring for details. £? 0151 526 1242

VASES vintage royal winton decorative hexagonal shaped 2x large vases with an extra smaller vase £30.00 o.n.o. 07790791733

WALL MIRROR tubular grey metal frame, mirror size 43cm x 68cm, with frame 70cm x 84cm, excellent condition. £10 o.n.o. 01695424797

WANTED ladies lightweight bike to suit older lady trying to get fit! £0 negotiable 0754 625 4448

WANTED Wanted, solid chest of drawers and dressing table with stool £0 negotiable 0754 625 4448

WANTED black wood type TV cabinet wanted. £0 negotiable 07546254448

WARDROBE Traditional style single wardrobe in dark wood. £15 01695 423252/ 07976 131914

WASHING MACHINE washing machine beko white tel 01704 534003 or 07845 053851 or text £50 o.n.o. 01704 534003

HOUSE AND HOME

WINNIE THE POOH Cotbed. No Mattress. Excellent condition. Was £ 200 will sell for £30.00 o.n.o. 0771 9080359

ZANUSSI WASHING MACHINE Type ZWG3122; ECO function; max 1200 rpm. spin; max 6kg load; manual incl. £75 01704 260612

GARDENING

15 FLAGS GREY Spare grey flags 2ftx2ft, good condition, buyer collects. £30 01695573147

BIRD BOXES Bird Boxes For Nesting Garden Birds £2.50 01704227588

GARDEN BLOWER mc culloch model mac gbv 325 petrol £50£ 01704 579374

GARDEN HOSE Hozelock, on reel, good length with 2 connectors £10 01704 876855

GARDEN TOOLS long handled fork, patio knife weeder, shears, long handled weeding twist, spade, bulb planter, lawn hedgeing shears, saw £45.00 o.n.o. 07790791733

PARASENE PARAFFIN HEATER For small greenhouse, twin wicks, brand new with box, only used once. Phone or text Steve £22 o.n.o. 07879014423

PATIO SET White plastic patio set, includes four stackable chairs and large table with removable legs. Excellent condition £40.00 01704875299

WHEELBARROW Lightweight and foldable, ideal for small sheds, excellent condition. Call or text Steve £10 07879014423

HOBBIES

SNOOKER/POOL TABLE BCE. Fold away 6ft.Including accessories. Excellent condition. Amazon £299 £95 0151 9287091

BAIT PUMP Alvey long slim bait pump, only used twice. £25 01704560680

BEAUTY THERAPY BED black, hardly used £38 0151 2226627

ELECTRIC COOLBOX 40L Halfords mains and 12v coolbox, with sturdy wheels and pull out handle. Hardly used. £45 o.n.o. 01704560680

HOBBIES

FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES WANTED also ticket stubs, metal pin badges, panini stickers/albums, press photos players match worn shirts, boots, medals etc. £££ 01515319425 or 07773242918

GEORGE III CARTWHEEL 2PENCE George III cartwheel 2pence. 1797 great condition. No texts £150.00 07545873943

GOLF CLUBS SETS Includes one junior set, Used but good condition, clear out so price is for all 3 sets £50 01704831977

GUITAR PRS SE CUSTOM 22. TREMLO MODEL, FLAME MAPLE CHERRY MADE IN KOREA, BEAUTIFUL CONDITION Tremlo model. flame cherry red made in Korea beautiful condion £270 07811994572

JHS ENCORE GUITAR 1980's made in Korea, red strat body, good condition, quality instrument used in studio, strap locks, soft case £45 01704831977

JONES SEWING MACHINE Jones sewing machine, Old but Good working order. £40 01704831977

KING GEORGE VI COINS Framed George VI coins from farthing to crown.10 coins framed in dark wood frame with history of the Festival of Britain in 1951. No texts £30.00 07545873943

LANCASHIRE.CCC lancashire cricket club memorabillia, including shirts, programmes, magazines, books, membership cards 1983–2000 newspapers, yearbooks, scorecards, plus other scorecards involving england 1981–1998, a must for a collector of cricket history, its worth a lot, genuine offers only £00.00 o.n.o. 07790791733

LINN AXIS TURNTABLE Turntable parts for project, Axis plinth, platter, Sondek red button power supply and motor, Stanton S arm and cartridge. £175 01704831977

MARSHALL GUITAR AMPLIFIER TSL122 JCM2000 Triple Super Lead combo 2x12' Celestions, new and spare valves, yellow jackets EL84 valves included too. £325 01704831977

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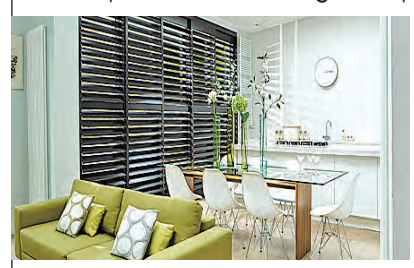
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1138104

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1137883

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1137626

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Application form, job description and person specification are available via email to finance.forefieldjunior@schools.sefton.gov.uk or can be requested with a large self-addressed stamped envelope or to Mrs K. Mayers, Forefield Junior School, Forefield Lane, Crosby, Liverpool L23 9TJ. Completed Application forms to be returned to the same address.

Closing Date: Friday 27th March 2015 @ 12 noon

Due to the nature of work the above post is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and relevant care/safeguarding legislation and appointment will only be confirmed if a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure is obtained from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)

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1138101

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1137808

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1133760

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1137993

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1138037

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For more information regarding the service please see our web site: www.lancsngfl.as.uk/curriculum/music
Please send a CV and covering letter to Lancashire Music Service, The Woodlands Centre, Southport Road, CHORLEY, PR7 1QR or email lancs.music@lancashire.gov.uk

Closing date: 23 March 2015
Successful applicants will be contacted and invited for interview. Should you have any further questions please contact Bernardette Hill, Teaching and Learning Consultant 07584 217741.

Some schools are excluded as commitment is on an individual basis.

Lancashire County Council

Apply online at: **www.lancashire.gov.uk/vacancies**

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1131907

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1137996

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DEATHS

HENDERSON Jack

February 28th 2015

Aged 90 Years. Peacefully in Westcliffe Manor Nursing Home.

Loving husband of the late Joan, proud dad to Christine, Michael and Janet, father-in-law to Roger, Helen and Alistair, awesome grandad to Andrew, John, Katie, Sam, Kim, Alexandria and doting great-grandad to Sophie, Bethany and Wesley. A service to celebrate Jack's Life will be held at Lord Street West United Church on Friday 13th March at 1.15 pm. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 19a Banastre Road, Southport, PR8 5AW. Telephone: 01704 500086.

1138102

DEATHS

Goss Patricia (Pat)

Passed away peacefully at Southport Hospital on 18th February 2015

Aged 81 years

Loving wife of James (decd), wonderful mum to James (decd), Stephen, Pamela and Melanie. Mother in law to Lorraine, Christine, Glyn and John. Devoted Grandma to James, Jayne, David, Courtnay, Bethany, Sophie and Eve. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Family flowers only but donations if so desired to K.I.N.D. Funeral Service to take place on Thursday 5th March 2015 at St Annes R.C. Church, Ormskirk at 10.45am followed by committal at Southport Crematorium. For further enquiries please contact Hunters Funeral Directors 128b Burscough Street, Ormskirk L39 2EY. Tel 01695 572997.

1137954

DEATHS

RIMMER Tony (Gyp)

6104078

6.2.1951 to 24.2.2015
To my loving Daddy

I love you Dad, I never told you enough, if I had a chance one more time I would say a thousand times more how much I love you so, you inspired me so much, you fought to the last breath. I have never been so proud I've had a dad like you in my life. I made you three promises and you would be so pleased to know I will be keeping them.
All our love Chez xxxxx

DEATHS

RIMMER Anthony

24.2.15
Sleep tight Tony

We thought of you
today, but that is
nothing new,
We thought about you
yesterday and days
before that too,
We think of you in
silence, we often
speak your name,
All we have are
memories and your
picture in a frame,
Your memory is our
keepsake, from which
we will never part,
God has you in his
arms, we have you in
our hearts.

Gill and Bill
xxx

6104260

DEATHS

MARSH Joe

on 26th February 2015 peacefully aged 82 years.

Loving husband of Margaret, devoted Dad of Steven, dear Father-in-law of Jayne and cherished Grandad of Chris and Laura.
Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.
Funeral service will take place at Southport Crematorium on Monday 9th March at 1.20pm.
Family flowers only please by request. Donations if desired for Alzheimers Society. All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale
Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane
Tel: 01695 559868

1138106

DEATHS

Bibby Peter

February 23rd 2015

Aged 74 years.

Much loved husband of Cath, brother to Sid and Anne, dear brother-in-law of Fred, John, Margie, Joan, June, Lynne and the late Tommy. He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 6th March at 10:40am. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 82 Station Road, Ainsdale, PR8 3HW. Telephone: 01704 577786.

1137933

DEATHS

JONES Joan

24.02.15

Passed away peacefully in her sleep, aged 69

Devoted wife of the late Billy, cherished mother of Diane, much loved Grandmother of Kris, Adam, Rachael and dearly loved nin of Tyler. Passed away peacefully after her brave fight with lymphoma. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral to take place at Southport Crematorium on Monday 9th March at 2.40pm with wake from 3.00pm onwards at Harry's Bar, Toby Tavern Skelmersdale.

Come join us
to celebrate the
life of Joan.

6103858

IN MEMORIAM

BLAKEMAN Doreen

Wedding Anniversary

3rd March

We can not share
this anniversary, but
I have 63 years of
very happy memories
of all the things
we did together,
side by side.

I will never forget
them, as I will never
forget you.

Missing you
so much

All my love
Rodd

x x x

45196

IN MEMORIAM

Johnson Patricia

27th February 2005

I wish that I could
see you Mum
for just a little while,
I wish that I could
hug you and see
your lovely smile,
I miss you most
when I need a friend,
On you I always
could depend,
Kind and thoughtful
a Mum so true,
My dearest possession
is the memory of you.
Loving daughter San
and Alec
XX

45401

PRAYER

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. **E.K.**

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. 45183

DEATHS

RIMMER ANTHONY (Tony the Gyp)

February 24th 2015, Aged 64 Years

Peacefully in hospital
surrounded by his
loving family. Tony will
be sadly missed by all
his family, friends and
adored dog Gyp.

Service at Southport
Crematorium on
Tuesday 10th March
at 11:20am.
Flowers welcome.

Enquiries to Howard's
Funeral Directors,
19a Banastre Road,
Southport, PR8 5AW.
Tel: 01704 500086.

1138048

DEATHS

Linaker Ellen (Tina)

On Monday 23rd February 2015

aged 89 years passed away peacefully.

Beloved wife of the late Ronald, dearly loved mum of Pat and Lesley, mother in law to Les, much loved grandma to Carrie and husband Simon, Ellen will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.
The family would like to thank the Kingsley Nursing Home for all their care and help given to Ellen over the last six years.
Funeral Service at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 5th March at 10:40am. Family flowers only please but if desired donations may be sent for North West Cancer Research. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 19a Banastre Road, Southport, PR8 5AW. Telephone: 01704 500086.

1137932

DEATHS

SMITH Vera

(formerly known as Vera MYERS) on 25th February 2015

peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family aged 93 years

Loving wife of the late Henry, devoted Mum of Lally, Kenny, Pauline, Christine and Diane, Dear Mother-in-Law of Phil, John, Jackie and Glenda, Cherished Nan and Great Nan of all her grandchildren. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service will take place at Southport Crematorium on Monday 9th March at 10.00am. Family flowers only please by request. Donations if desired for the British Heart Foundation.
All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale, Funeral Service, 29/31 Sandy Lane, Tel: 01695 559868

1138107

DEATHS

Kinsey Dorothy

Suddenly but peacefully on Sunday 22nd February 2015 in Asmall Hall Care Home, aged 74 years

A beloved mum of
Wallace, Yvonne and
Mandy and a loving
Grandma and Great
Grandma. The funeral
service and committal will
take place on Thursday
5th March in St Helens
Crematorium Chapel at
12 noon. Family flowers
only please donations
to Dementia UK will be
greatly appreciated
c/o The family.

All enquiries to
The Co-Operative
FuneralCare 788-790
Ormskirk Rd Pemberton
Tel 01942 213374

1137997

IN MEMORIAM

Gimson Jenny Amanda

12th May 1974 - 2nd March 1995

20 years without our beautiful daughter Jenny

Missed so terribly
But with us in our
hearts every day.

All our love

Mum, Dad,
Paul & Emily

xxxx

45103

IN MEMORIAM

Johnson Patricia

27th February 2005

We can't have the old
days back when we
were all together,
but secret tears and
loving thoughts will
be with us forever.
Love and miss you
always Mum

Gary, Angela, Abbie
and Chloe
XXXX

45402

IN MEMORIAM

Johnson Patricia

27th February 2005

No words or verse
could ever say,
the loss we've felt
since you went away.

Think about you
every day Mam,
love and miss you

Son Alan & Carol
XXXX

45403

PRAYER

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. **M.S.**

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. 45104

DEATHS

RIMMER Tony (Gyp)

24.2.15

Keep holding my hand Daddy

Walk along side me
Daddy and hold tight
on to my hand,
I have so many things
to learn that I yet don't
understand.

I held you in my
arms so tight, I never
left your side,
you felt that I was there
with you and saw the
tears I cried.

When your heart
stopped beating and
finally went asleep,
my heart broke in
two and only memories
I have to keep.

Sadly missed
Your little girl Katherine

6103998

DEATHS

MOLYNEUX AUDREY (nee Young)

Peacefully on 25th February 2015 aged 86 years

A good neighbour and
friend to all.
A service to celebrate
Audrey's life will be
held at Liverpool Road
Methodist Church on
Friday 6th March at
2.00pm followed by tea
in the church hall.
No donations but
flowers are welcome.
All enquiries to
Howard's Funeral
Directors, 19a Banastre
Road, Southport,
PR8 5AW.
Telephone:
01704 500086.

1138013

DEATHS

DADY Barbara

23 Jul 1926 - 23 Feb 2015
Mum has passed away...

Mum, 'Camp Follower' of Maj (Retd) Harry Dady for 64 years is now reunited with Dad. Loving and hard working mother to five daughters, Susan, Lynne, Jane, Sarah and Anne. Grandmother to eight grandchildren and Great Grandmother to one.
We know you said don't be sad, but we can't help it. You were the lynch pin that kept us all together. We all love and miss you very much.
Service is on Thursday 5 March at 1520 hrs in the Thornton Garden of Rest.
No flowers, just donations to Claire House (Childrens Hospice) please.
Anyone who knew our Mum, please come and help us say goodbye.

6103937

DEATHS

Rasburn Frederick

Passed away peacefully at Appleby Court Nursing Home, Wigan on 24th February 2015

Aged 76 years

Beloved husband of Kathleen. Much loved Uncle to Kathy, Mark and Robyn. Fredrick will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him. Funeral service will take place at Upholland Methodist Church on Monday 9th March 2015 at 2.30pm followed by committal at St Helens Crematorium at 3.30pm. Family flowers only please, donations in memory to Manchester Children's Hospital c/o the funeral director. All enquiries to R.Bank & Son (Funerals) Stretton House, 23 Hall Green, Upholland, Wigan. Tel 01695 622099. www.rbanksandson.co.uk

1138077

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Boyer

Ten long years
Have gone by
But in my heart
You will never die

Ronnie
X

45268

IN MEMORIAM

BEECH Teresa Mary

3rd March 2014

No longer in our lives
to share
But in our hearts you
are always there
Love from Joyce, Bill
& family
Missing you
XXX

45102

IN MEMORIAM

Johnson Patricia

27th February 2005

Nan we miss you more
than words can say,
In our hearts you
will always stay,
Loved and
remembered every day.

Grandson Phil, Kelly
and Great Grandson
Daniel
XXX

45404

IN MEMORIAM

Johnson Patricia

27th February 2005

The hardest thing
in life to bear,
is to want your Nan
and she's not there.

Loving granddaughter
Alison X

Love and miss you
loads Gran, Great
Granddaughter
Aimée X

45405

PRAYER

DEAR SACRED HEART OF JESUS

In the past I have asked
for many favours.
This time I ask for
one special favour.
(mention it)

Take it dear heart of
Jesus and place it
within your own broken
heart where your Father
sees it. Then in his
merciful eyes it will
become your favour,
not mine.

Amen

Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and your favour will be granted. Never to be failed.

M.D

Announcements

Call the Classified Sales Team on **01704 392392**
or check-out our website **www.champnews.com**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

HALL
Reverend Timothy Peter

Reverend Ann Hall and the family of the late Reverend Tim Hall wish to express our sincere thanks for the kindness, love, prayers and practical support we have received since Tim's sudden death. Thank you for the many hundreds of cards and letters testifying to the way Tim's faith and compassion has touched countless lives. In the midst of sorrow we have known the comfort and strength of "God with skin on" through family, friends and the wider Christian community in Southport. We want to say a very big, heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed towards the Service of Celebration of Tim's life on Tuesday 17th February. We especially are grateful for the support of Southport Methodist Circuit Leadership and all those who hosted the 800 plus people who came from all over the country to say farewell to Tim as he joined the company of the faithful departed in the presence of his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Tim's life of service was a joy and privilege, a passion not a duty.

For Tim to live was Christ and to die was gain.

Thank you especially to Revd Patrick Evans for preparing and leading the Celebration with joy and dignity and for his understanding and empathy with our needs. Thank you to John Cass, the Circuit Administrator for successfully and sensitively coordinating the planning and practicalities.

We thank God for the generosity of all who have given donations to the British Heart Foundation and to Compassion UK in Tim's memory. Many people have expressed sadness that they were unable to attend the Funeral. Accordingly, on Sunday 8th March, at Liverpool Rd Methodist Church, Birkdale, the DVD of the Celebration Service will be shown in the Church at 1pm. All are welcome to attend.

We wish to thank Cooperative Funeral Services who arranged the expatriation of Tim's body from South Africa. Last but certainly not least, we were blessed by the ministrations of Carl Howard and his exceptionally professional and caring staff at Howard's Funeral Directors. Howard's promise to go the extra mile and indeed they travelled with Tim and us that extra mile with integrity, dignity and grace. They treated us as precious family. God bless you all, with love, Ann Hall et al.

1138094

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Guyers
Annie Pauline

Dave and family would like to thank all relatives and friends for the many cards and messages of support at this sad time.

Thank you also for the donations made to the British Heart Foundation and Midstream.

Thank you to Anthony Callaghan for his kind ministrations.

And a special thanks to Susie Bunner of Beacon Primary Care for all the support and care she gave us.

Finally thank you to Hardmans Funeral Directors for an excellent, caring and professional service.

45068

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday
Paul
Jordan
4th March

The Big 30. Have a Great Day. Lots of Love Matty Stacey Lucas and Evie x x x Mum and Oliver x x x

6103755

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PRAYER

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. **S.M**

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THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
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(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle from proceeding over the following lengths of highway in the West Lancashire borough:-

1)Red Cat Lane from its junction with A59 Liverpool Road North to its junction with Tarlscough Lane.
2)Tarlscough Lane from its junction with Red Cat Lane to its junction with Fish Lane.
3)Fish Lane from its junction with Tarlscough Lane to its junction with Berry House Road.
4)Berry House Road from its junction with Fish Lane to its junction with Wiggins Lane.
5)Wiggins Lane from its junction with Berry House Road to its junction with B5246 Holmeswood Road.
Alternative routes for vehicular traffic affected by the closure are via:-
1)A59 Liverpool Road North – A59 Moss Lane – A59 Liverpool Road North – B5246 Holmeswood Road – Wiggins Lane – Berry House Road – Fish Lane and vice versa
2)Fish Lane - Tarlscough Lane – Red Cat Lane - A59 Liverpool Road North – A59 Moss Lane – A59 Liverpool Road North – B5246 Holmeswood Road and vice versa
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out.
The prohibition will be operative daily from 0800 hours until 1700 hours on Thursday 26th February 2015 until Wednesday 11th March 2015 or until completion of the works within this period. It is intended that the works will be completed on a rolling basis.

Andrew Burrows, Public Realm Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701
[Ref: LHS/BS/08/092/NS]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk
1137996

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010 - Article 13

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
Application No: 2014/1334/FUL Single storey addition to form buggy store at Ormskirk Golf Club, Cranes Lane, Lathom.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2015/0062/COU Change of use of existing agricultural barn to A3 use (cafe). Various external fabric alterations including new windows, door openings and timber overcladding at Tower View, Blindmans Lane, Ormskirk.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2015/0123/FUL Change of use from former pig barn to 2 bedroom dwelling including proposed conservatory to side and associated driveway and parking at Boundary Farm, Graveyard Lane, Bickerstaffe.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2015/0132/FUL Single storey front extension, 2 no. two storey side extensions and revision and reconfiguration of access and parking arrangements at Sons Of Divine Providence, Cardinal Heenan House, School Lane, Roby Mill, UpHolland.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING
Application No: 2014/1200/FUL Single storey extension to existing outbuilding for agricultural purposes at Stand Farm, Spa Lane, Lathom.
Application No: 2014/1201/LBC Listed Building Consent - Single storey extension to existing outbuilding for agricultural purposes at Stand Farm, Spa Lane, Lathom.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's web site www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to the Planning Division, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI
Assistant Director Planning
Dated: 4th March 2015
PDNOT831
1138083

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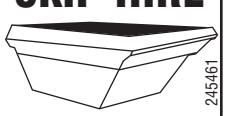
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The Vulcan has previously made appearances at the Southport Air Show Code NA

Help to keep Vulcan in the skies above us

By David Simister

YOU can help keep part of Britain's aviation heritage in the skies with a novel replacement for your car's old tax disc.

The Vulcan to the Sky Trust, a charity which keeps the only airworthy Avro Vulcan left ready for flight, has launched a replacement disc for your car's windscreen.

The Avro Vulcan is a jet–powered delta wing strategic bomber, which was operated by the Royal Air Force from 1956 until 1984.

Aircraft manufacturer A. V. Roe and Company (Avro) designed the Vulcan in response to Specification B.35/46. Of the three V bombers produced, the Vulcan was considered the riskiest option.

Although the Vulcan was typically armed with nuclear weapons, it was capable of conventional bombing missions, a capability which was used in Operation Black Buck during the Falklands War between the United Kingdom and Argentina in 1982.

It costs £4 for a pack of three discs, available from www.vulcantothesky.org

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Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER

HERE'S a pub quiz question to test your motoring knowledge. What does the Range Rover Evoque have in common with the Triumph TR7, the BAC Mono and the Ford Anglia?

The answer – should you wish to try this one on your petrolhead pals – is they've all been bolted together just down the road in Liverpool. As were the Jaguar X–Type, the Land Rover Freelander, the Ford Escort and the Triumph Toledo for that matter. We've been mass–producing motors on Merseyside since the 1960s, and yet these great industrial achievements have gone uncelebrated for decades.

That's why I was delighted to learn the other day that one of the star draws of Liverpool's Transatlantic 175 festival in July is a cavalcade through the city centre of 175 classic cars and motorbikes, accompanied by a static display of motoring's greatest hits on the Albert Dock. I can't wait to see how this one pans out, because Merseyside's been overdue a really big car event for decades.

The event's organisers told me they're looking for cars from across the North West which are either British or American and have "great stories to tell" –prototypes, one–offs, early models, that sort of thing – for the 5 July parade through the centre.

Wouldn't it be great to see one of the first Ford Anglias ever to roll off the Halewood production line take part in that parade, followed by a couple of the Formula One cars which fans of the Ormskirk MotorFest will be familiar with? I'd love to see a Southport–crafted Vulcan, one of the Lotus Europas lovingly built in Banks or one of Ellesmere Port's earliest Vauxhall Vivas winding their way past Liverpool's landmarks.

The North West has a wonderful motoring heritage and the Transatlantic 175 festival is the perfect occasion to share that with the world. I'm really looking forward to the event. See you there?

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V VW GOLF V5 2.3 5-Dr, met. silver, PAS, c/l, CD, 18" alloys, climate, ABS..... £1,895
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04 FIAT PUNTO ACTIVE 1200 SPORT 3-dr, (5 Speed) met silver, PAS, e/windows, c/locking, alloys..... £1,295
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2008 (08) BMW X5 3.0D SE 5DR 4WD

Buy for only £84 per week

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2011 (61) MERCEDES BENZ C CLASS C250 CDI EFFICIENCY AMG SPORT 4DR

Buy for only £79 per week

White, 59,000 miles, CD/MP3, cruise control, sat nav, Bluetooth, alloys, full Mercedes service history, immaculate

2011 (61) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5DR

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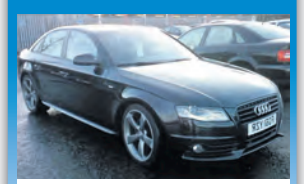
Black, 60,000 miles, sat nav system, CD, full black leather, alloys, climate control

2012 (61) AUDI A4 TDI 170 BLACK EDITION 4DR



Buy for only £67 per week

Black, 100,000 miles, FSH, alloys, cruise & climate control, E/W, Blueooth, well looked after

2011 (61) MITSUBISHI L200 D/CAB DI-D WARRIOR II 4WD

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Black, 50,000 miles, FSH, sat nav, A/C, cruise, Bluetooth, alloys, E/W, immaculate condition

2011 (11) BMW 3 SERIES 320D (184) M SPORT 4DR

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White, 95,000 miles, alloys, CD autochanger, A/C, cruise control, CD/MP3, stunning car, park assist

2011 (61) AUDI A3 2.0 TDI BLACK EDITION 5DR

Buy for only £57 per week

Black, 102,000 miles, FSH, half leather, CD, iPod/USB connection, cruise control, alloys, 1 previous owner, rare car, stunning

2011 (60) AUDI A6 TDIe 2.0 SE 4DR

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Blue, 113,000 miles, FSH, full leather, sat nav, alloys, climate & cruise control, A/C, drives perfect

2011 (61) NISSAN QASHQAI 2.0 DCI 4WD TEKNA

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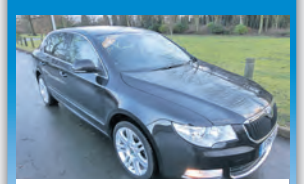
Black, 110,000 miles, navigation system, E/W, multi-change CD, alloys

2011 (61) SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDI CR 170 ELEGANCE 5DR



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Black, 111,000 miles, heated leather seats, sat nav, 6CD changer, MP3, alloys, A/C

2010 (10) VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT CC 2.0 TDI CR 4DR

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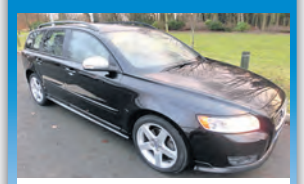
Grey, 120,000 miles, sat nav, front & rear parking sensors, FSH, alloys, E/W, stunning car

2010 (10) VOLVO V50 2.0D R DESIGN 5DR



Buy for only £45 per week

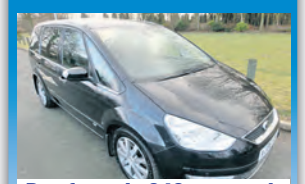
Black, 76,000 miles, CD, MP3 connection, cruise control, tinted windscreen, alloys, FSH

2009 (58) MERCEDES-BENZ B CLASS B150 SPORT

Buy for only £41 per week

Grey, 40,000 miles, half leather, FSH, 6CD autochanger, immaculate condition, A/C, alloys

2006 (06) FORD GALAXY 2.0 TDCi (140PS) GHIA



Buy for only £40 per week

Black, 86,000 miles, climate, cruise control, heated seats, E/W, parking sensors, sat nav system

2011 (61) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDI 105 BLUE-MOTION TECH MATCH 5DR

Buy for only £38 per week

Silver, 97,000 miles, alloys, cruise, E/W, reverse parking aid

2011 (60) AUDI A3 2.0 TDI 5DR (START STOP)

Buy for only £36 per week

Silver, 110,000 miles, cruise, FSH, E/W, CD, A/C, immaculate condition

2011 (61) VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 2.0 TDI

Buy for only £36 per week

Bluemotion Tech S 4dr Grey, 111,000 miles, FSH, A/C, alloys, Bluetooth, 6CD autochanger

2011 (61) FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi 115 ZETEC 5DR

Buy for only £33 per week

Silver, 109,000 miles, FSH, £20 a year road tax, A/C, alloys, CD, Bluetooth

2009 (09) MINI HATCH BACK 1.6 COOPER D 3DR

Buy for only £33 per week

White, 95,000 miles, FSH, A/C, alloys, heated front screen, immaculate condition

2011 (11) PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.6 HDI 92 TEPEE ZENITH

Buy for only £33 per week

Silver, 76,000 A/C, panoramic roof, E/W, CD, parking sensors, full service history

2010 (60) VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi FLEX EXCLUSIV (160) 5DR

Buy for only £31 per week

White, 99,000 miles, FSH, E/W, climate & cruise control

2011 (11) FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI SPORT 5DR (110) DPF

Buy for only £31 per week

Black, 110,000 miles, sat nav, alloys, E/W, 2 keys, stunning car

2008 (08) HONDA CIVIC 1.8i-VTEC TYPE S GT

Buy for only £31 per week

Black, 82,000 climate control, cruise, E/W, sunroof, multi CD, sat nav system, alloys

2008 (08) FIAT 500 1.4 LOUNGE

Buy for only £28 per week

White, 56,000 miles, alloys, CD multi-changer, climate control, E/W, E/W, PAS

2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTi FLEX EXCLUSIV 5DR (AC)

Buy for only £26 per week

Silver, 68,000 miles, E/W, A/C, PAS, cheap road tax, well looked after

2009 (09) CITROEN C1 1.0I SPLASH

Buy for only £24 per week

White, 54,000 miles, CD, ABS, A/C, E/W, immaculate inside & out

2008 (08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTi BREEZE PLUS

Buy for only £24 per week

Silver, 95,000 miles, alloys, CD, E/W, A/C, 2 keys, full Vauxhall history, immaculate condition inside & out

2008 (58) FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi TITANIUM 5DR (110) (DPF)

Buy for only £24 per week

Blue, 123,000 miles, FSH, alloys, privacy glass, A/C, heated front screen, stunning car

2008 (58) FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the all-new Mazda2 range: Urban 43.5 (6.5) - 74.3 (3.8). Extra Urban 68.9 (4.1) - 88.3 (3.2). Combined 56.5 (5.0) - 83.1 (3.4). CO_2 emissions (g/km) 117 - 89.
The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.
Model shown: all-new Mazda2 90ps Sports Launch Edition, OTR from £14,995. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. °Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of print.
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60 Monthly Payments of... £119
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £7,140
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11 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £129

Cash Price..... £7,740
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £129
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £7,740
0% APR REPRESENTATIVE

KIA RIO

61 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £129

Cash Price..... £7,740
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £129
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £7,740
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FIAT PANDA

58 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £69

Cash Price..... £4,140
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £69
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £4,140
0% APR REPRESENTATIVE

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10 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £89

Cash Price..... £5,340
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £89
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £5,340
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59 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £119

Cash Price..... £7,140
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £119
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £7,140
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11 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £129

Cash Price..... £7,740
Deposit..... £0
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Interest Charges..... 0%
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61 PLATE

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Interest Charges..... 0%
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61 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £139

Cash Price..... £7,740
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £139
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £7,,740
0% APR REPRESENTATIVE

SKODA FABIA

63 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £179

Cash Price..... £10,740
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £179
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £10,740
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2012 REG

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £179

Cash Price..... £10,740
Deposit..... £0
60 Monthly Payments of... £179
Interest Charges..... 0%
Total Amount Payable..... £10,740
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FORD FOCUS 1.6

61 PLATE

5 YEARS 0% FINANCE NO DEPOSIT NO INTEREST

ONLY PER MONTH £209

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Interest Charges..... 0%
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04 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 1.6 5DR HATCHBACK, in forest green metallic, only 66,000 miles, just had MoT & service, 2 keys, remote locking, service history, electric windows & mirrors, air condition, alloys, CD player **£1695**

07 FORD C-MAX 1.6 MPV 5 SEATER, finished in ocean blue, full service history, cloth trim, power assisted steering, only 2 owners from new, new cambelt just been fitted, 1600cc petrol engine, Ford alloys, 2 keys, double sunroof, air-con **£3695**

54 TOYOTA YARIS 1.0, finished in silver, 37,000 miles, full 12 months MoT, previously supplied by ourselves, local service history, power steering, 3 months Parbold parts & labour warranty, very low insurance..... **£2395**

53 FIAT DOBLO MPV 5 SEATER SX MODEL, long wheel base, finished in metallic silver, full 12 months MoT, side sliding doors, huge luggage area, service history, PAS, 3 months Parbold engine & gearbox warranty **£1995**

55 NISSAN ALMERA 5DR HATCHBACK, in coral blue metallic, remote locking, multi CD, air con, only 2 owners from new, Nissan service history, only group 5 insurance, 2 keys..... **£1895**

05 RENAULT MEGANE DIESEL CONVERTIBLE, just had MoT, 2 keys, Renault alloy wheels, remote locking, service history, electric windows, power assisted steering.... **£1995**

56 CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 HDI DIESEL, in silver, FSH, full 12 months MoT, 2 owners from new, remote central locking, low insurance, only group 5, superb economy, PAS, velour cloth trim, MPV 5 seater..... **£2895**

07 PEUGEOT 207 SW DIESEL ESTATE, finished in panther black, full service history, factory fitted roof rails, 2 keys, remote locking, multi change CD, Peugeot alloy wheels, full MoT, cheap road tax **£3695**

54 PEUGEOT CC CONVERTIBLE, finished in midnight black, alloys, service history, elec roof, 12 months MoT, 2 keys, matching grey cloth trim, CD, elec windows & mirrors, all previous MoTs available, Air con, superb condition **£2595**

57 VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 1200CC 3-DR HATCHBACK, finished in midnight black, just been MoT'd. Vauxhall alloys, 1 lady owner from brand new, electric front windows, aircon as standard, 2 keys supplied with remote central locking **£3695**

09 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 EXPRESSION, finished in blade silver, travelled only 32,000 miles from new, 1 owner, full Renault service history, A/C, Renault alloys, elec mirrors & windows, full MoT, matching charcoal cloth trim..... **£4995**

05 RENAULT CLIO EXTREME 1.2, finished in electric blue metallic, Renault alloy wheels, 12 months MoT, new tyres, power steering, low insurance group, 3 months Parbold engine & gearbox warranty..... **£2295**

53 FORD FUSION 1.4, finished in sage metallic, 5dr hatchback, full MoT, 3 months Parbold parts and labour warranty, low insurance, 2 keys, superb condition, multi CD, Ford alloys **£1795**

10 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION DIESEL, 49,000 miles from new, 1 owner, FSH, full MOT, 2 keys, e/windows, remote locking, CD player, 3 months Parbold Parts & Labour warranty, only £30 per year road tax..... **£4995**

57 RENAULT CAMPUS 1.2, finished in slate grey, service history, full 12 months MoT, low insurance group only group 2, 1200cc, 2 keys, remote control central locking, Renault alloy wheels, CD player, power steering..... **£2795**

07 NISSAN NOTE, cheapest in town, in silver, SE model, Nissan alloys, CD player, elec windows & mirrors, service history, remote locking, 2 keys, high mileage hence .. **£1695**

08 CITROEN XSARA PICASSO HDI DIESEL, finished in star silver metallic, special edition desire model, FSH, mpv 5 seater, 2 keys, full 12 months MoT, 3 months Parbold parts and labour warranty, electric windows& mirrors , A/C, CD player, grey cloth trim..... **£3395**

56 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MODEL 5-DR HATCHBACK, in intense blue, 49,000 miles, 2 keys, A/C, Multi CD, service history, full MoT **£3595**

54 CHRYSLER JEEP CHEROKEE STATION WAGON DIESEL 4WD, finished in strato silver, 72,000 miles, manual transmission, Chrysler alloy wheels, grey cloth trim, CRD model, full MoT, cambelt recently changed, full service history..... **£4295**

AUTOMATICS

11 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA AUTOMATIC 5DR, finished in blade silver, VERY VERY LOW MILEAGE only 3,300 from new, 1 owner, serviced by Nissan, special edition Acenta model, CD player, electric windows, 12 months Parbold parts and labour warranty, like new **£6695**

05 VW POLO AUTOMATIC 5-DR, finished in blade silver metallic, VW alloy wheels, CD player, central locking, PAS, FSH, full 12 months MOT **£2795**

07 TOYOTA YARIS 5-DR AUTOMATIC, finished in kingfisher blue, FSH, full MOT, 3 months Parbold parts and labour warranty, two keys, colour coded mirrors, Toyota service history..... **£3895**

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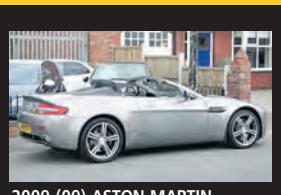
2009 (09) ASTON MARTIN VANTAGE 2DR SPORTSHIFT (420) AUTO, SILVER, 54K ALLOYS
£44,995

2012 (12) BMW 1 SERIES 120D M SPORT 2DR, SILVER, 9,000 MILES, ALLOYS
£15,995

2010 (10) SUBARU IMPREZA 2.5 WRX STI TYPE UK 5DR, RED, 41K, ALLOYS
£14,495

2012 (62) FIAT 500 SPECIAL EDITION GUCCI 950CC, 1 OF ONLY A FEW MADE, PAN ROOF, FULL GUCCI LEATHER, 12K
£10,995

2011 (11) MERCEDES-BENZ C LASS C200 CDI BLUE EFFICIENCY SE 4DR, RED, 56K, TINTED GLASS
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2013 (63) HYNUDAI I40 1.7 CRDI (115) BLUE DRIVE ACTIVE 5DR, SILVER, 33K, ALLOYS, ROOF RAILS
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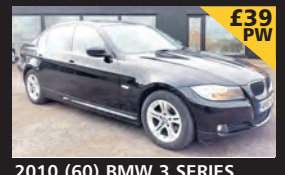
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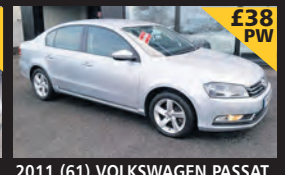
2011 (61) VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 1.6 TDI BLUEMOTION TECH S 4DR, SILVER, 67K, ALLOYS
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2012 (12) MAZDA 6 2.2D (163) TS 5DR, BLUE, 79K, ALLOYS
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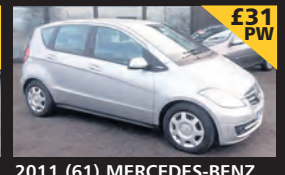
£7,494


2011 (61) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR, SILVER, 39K
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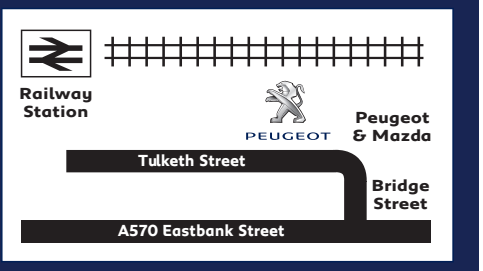

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Customer Deposit	£169	Total Charge for Credit	£0
Amount Financed	£10140	Total Amount Payable	£10309
		APR	0%

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Vehicle Price	£12139	60 x Monthly Payments	£199
Customer Deposit	£199	Total Charge for Credit	£0
Amount Financed	£11940	Total Amount Payable	£12139
		APR	0%

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£219* DEPOSIT | **£219* PER MONTH**

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Vehicle Price	£15359	60 x Monthly Payments	£219
Customer Deposit	£219	Total Charge for Credit	£0
Deposit We Pay	£2000	Total Amount Payable	£15359
Amount Financed	£13140	APR	0%

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£249* DEPOSIT | **£249* PER MONTH**

Finance Example:			
Vehicle Price	£15689	60 x Monthly Payments	£249
Customer Deposit	£249	Total Charge for Credit	£0
Deposit We Pay	£500	Total Amount Payable	£15689
Amount Financed	£14940	APR	0%

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Finance Example:			
Vehicle Price	£16389	60 x Monthly Payments	£249
Customer Deposit	£249	Total Charge for Credit	£0
Deposit We Pay	£1200	Total Amount Payable	£16389
Amount Financed	£14940	APR	0%

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Finance Example:			
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Customer Deposit	£269	Total Charge for Credit	£0
Amount Financed	£16140	Total Amount Payable	£16409
		APR	0%

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0% OFFER
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£289* DEPOSIT | **£289* PER MONTH**

Finance Example:			
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Customer Deposit	£289	Total Charge for Credit	£0
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		APR	0%

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• Air Con
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• Air Con
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• Air Con
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• FSH
• Alloys
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NEW IN

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• FSH
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• Alloys

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• Alloys

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• FMBH
• 1/2 Leather
• AMG Alloys

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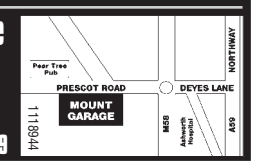

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Richmond storm back after cup defeat

Burscough Richmond 3
Turton 1

AFTER a disappointing cup exit the previous week against top of the table Fulwood Amateurs, Richmond came storming back with a performance that must rank with one of the best of the season as visitors Turton have an impressive record, conceding the least amount of goals in the league and are currently lying in third place.

This West Lancs League Division One match at Richmond Park was well attended for an amateur game and the contest didn't disappoint.

Jordan Lorde broke free of his markers and slotted the ball into the back of the net to give Richmond the lead.

Turton should have levelled but the forward smashed the ball against the upright and it bounced to safety.

Richmond were then awarded a penalty when Lorde was brought down when through on goal and it was put away by Mike Galliers.

On 67 minutes Richmond rapped the game up when Lorde beat the offside trap, rounded the oncoming keeper and stroked the ball into an empty net.

A silly mistake by Richmond stand–in keeper Rob Glayser led to a penalty for the visitors on the 75 minute mark for Turton to score.

Turton came close to scoring again when a wicked cross deflected off a centre–half's shin and was goal bound to the top corner but the keeper regained his colours bringing off a fantastic save to force the ball out for a corner.

The Skelmersdale squad in their new sponsored kit. Picture by Jackson Images.

Skem chief on lookout for business support

SKELMERSDALE United chairman Paul Griffiths is looking for more support from businesses for the club, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

He said: "The growth of the football club in recent years has brought attention to Skelmersdale as a place, it has made people in other parts of the country look at the town and has put the town's name into thousands of households around Britain.

"Many see the name on television and radio, plus it gets national coverage in newspapers, especially as the club have been leaders of the Evo–Stik Northern Premier League for long periods over the last two seasons.

"We have proved we can regularly compete at this level and continue knocking on the door for promotion.

"If we were to gain promotion we would be among the top 164 football clubs in England and with it would be even more publicity and media exposure.

"This can only be good for the town of Skelmersdale and everyone who lives or has a business within the community.

"We already have partnerships with local business, with Messenger Express among the main supporters.

"But we need to get more local businesses to join in if we are to maintain and build on our position.

"I have recently written to more than 100 local businesses and companies, inviting then to get on board. Bigger companies might be interested in stadium naming rights or maybe tracksuits and clothing.

"Small businesses can pay for a matchball sponsorship, which would see the company name in a prime position in the programme and a continued thank–you throughout the season.

"But we really are open to any innovative ideas partners might have."

People can contact vice–chairman Norman Fenney on 01695 575958 or Paul Griffithson on 07513 123164.

Skem United are at home on Saturday, March 7 to Ramsbottom United.

Red card for defender proves costly

Barwell 2
Skelmersdale United 0

SKELMERSDALE United manager Tommy Lawson will be glad of the new start a new month will bring after a miserable February culminated in a day a frustration in Leicestershire.

After a bright opening the loss of central defender Rob Bodie after just 18 minutes proved crucial as the man he was marking arguably won the game for Barwell.

Skem had started well and Rob McIntosh almost headed home from a Kenny Strickland free–kick in the third minute.

Rob Bodie then picked up a first booking of the game a minute later for pulling a shirt and calamity struck in the 18th minute.

Home striker Jamie Towers broke free on a run at the penalty box, and Bodie again dragged him back and the referee showed him a second yellow then red card.

Barwell went ahead in the 29th minute when a free–kick on the left was floated into the area and Towers got above everyone to head home. He was the man Bodie would have been marking.

Chances became few, and the second–half was a mirror image of the first, both teams working hard but generating little in front of goal.

That was until the 71st minute when Towers took advantage of space in the penalty area to blast home his second goal.

Skelmersdale continued to press but to no avail.

Linnets pick up first win of 2015

Brighouse Town 0
Burscough 1

BURSCOUGH picked up a much deserved away win on Saturday.

It is the first win of 2015 for the side so the three points will come as a huge relief to the loyal fans.

Burscough took the lead from a free kick in the 19th minute when Jordan Williams put his shot past Town keeper Jordan Porter who appeared off balance as the ball came out of a ruck of players after it had been swung in from some 30 yards out.

The home side had a chance to level from a free kick six minutes later but Linnets goalkeeper Calvin Hare did superbly to get his fingertips to the ball and pushed it over the crossbar.

Burscough came close to scoring goal number two with a quick fire shot from Eddie Toner but the home keeper Jordan Porter pulled off a superb save with a dive to the ground and managed to push it out towards the corner to clear the danger.

The Linnets could have extended their lead when Jordan Williams gave Will Jones a superb ball but the chance was missed.

Then Paul Williams had a near miss with the keeper pulling out another magnificent diving save. Two minutes later and Will Jones sent the ball across the face of the goal with Porter diving to cover the corner and clear the danger.

It was the 63rd minute when the home side had their first proper attempt on goal with Ryan Hall setting up Law but the ball needed a little more power and Hare saved the ball from going in at the corner.

In the 71st minute Toner skied a chance from 12 yards out for Brighouse and Burscough held on to their narrow lead to take the points.

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